

THE ILLUSTRATED
SPORTING & DRAMATIC
NEWS

No. 159.—VOL. VI.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1877.

REGISTERED FOR
TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

PRICE SIXPENCE.
By Post 6¹/₂d.



MRS. MONCKTON.

RAILWAYS.

SANDOWN PARK CLUB FIRST SPRING MEETING, ESHER,
TUESDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY, AND WEDNESDAY,
28TH FEBRUARY.

SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

SPECIAL TRAINS will run on both the above days from Waterloo, Vauxhall, and Clapham Junction Stations, to ESHER, from 11 a.m. till 1 p.m.; returning from ESHER after the Races.
Trains from Hammersmith, Kensington, West Brompton, and Chelsea, in connection at Clapham Junction with the Special Trains.
Tickets may be procured on and after Saturday, 24th February, at the West End Office, 30, Regent-street, Piccadilly-circus; Messrs. Pratt and Barbrook, 28, Conduit-street, W.; Golden Cross, Charing-cross; Exeter-buildings, Arthur-street West, E.C.; and at the Waterloo-bridge, Vauxhall, Clapham Junction, and Kensington (Addison-road) Stations.

BOMBAY.—ANCHOR LINE.—Direct
route to India. Fortnightly sailings.—First-class steamers, fitted up expressly for the trade. Qualified surgeons and stewardesses carried.

	From Glasgow.	From Liverpool.
EUROPA	Saturday, Feb. 24	Saturday, March 3.
ITALIA	Saturday, Mar. 10	Saturday, March 17.
INDIA	Saturday, Mar. 31	Saturday, April 7.
MACEDONIA	Saturday, April 14	Saturday, April 21.

First-class, 50 guineas. Sail punctually as advertised. Apply for berths or handbooks to Henderson Brothers, Union-street, Glasgow, and 17, Water-street, Liverpool; J. W. Jones, Chapel-walk, Manchester; Grindlay and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.; and Henderson Brothers, 19, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

MANCHESTER.

REAL ICE RINK, RUSHOLME.
NOW OPEN.

REAL ICE SKATING RINK,
RUSHOLME.

ADMISSION—TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE.

HOURS—ELEVEN TO ONE, THREE TO FIVE, AND
SEVEN-THIRTY TO TEN.

Visitors can use their own Skates (which must be rounded at the heel), but
Skates will be provided at 3d. per pair.

REAL ICE RINK.

BAND THREE TIMES EACH DAY.

MARAVILLA COCOA FOR BREAKFAST.

"It may justly be called the
Perfection of Prepared Cocoa."—
British Medical Press.
"Entire solubility, a delicate
aroma, and a rare concentration
of the purest elements of nutrition,
distinguish the MARAVILLA
COCOA above all others."—
Globe.
Sold in tin-lined packets only by
Grocers. TAYLOR BROTHERS,
London, Sole Proprietors.

Possessing all the Properties of the finest Arrowroot.

BROWN AND POLSON'S CORN-FLOUR

HAS TWENTY YEARS' WORLD-WIDE REPUTATION,
AND IS

**UNEQUALLED FOR UNIFORMLY SUPERIOR
QUALITY.**

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—The Directors of the
THEATRE ROYAL are prepared to receive offers for the Sale,
or for a lease for a term of years. Sealed Tender to be sent addressed to
the undersigned not later than Thursday, the 1st March next.
By Order, JOHN SETTLE, Secretary.

GENERAL EXHIBITION OF WATER
COLOUR DRAWINGS, DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall,
Piccadilly.—The THIRTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION will OPEN
on MONDAY, the 20th inst.—R. F. McNAIR, Sec.
After Monday, is open daily from 10 till 6. Admittance, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.

HORSE SHOW.—AGRICULTURAL HALL,
ISLINGTON.
JUNE 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th.
By Order,
S. SIDNEY, Secretary and Manager.

THE GROSVENOR GALLERY (the Largest
in London), New Bond-street, will Open in APRIL NEXT, for the
Exhibition of PICTURES by Eminent Artists. Admission, One Shilling.

NEW CONCERT ROOM, ROYAL
ACADEMY OF MUSIC.
TENTERDEN STREET, HANOVER SQUARE.

MISS MADELENA CRONIN

Has the Honour to announce that she will give
TWO PIANOFORTE RECITALS
as above, on

TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH, 13TH, 1877, AND THURSDAY
EVENING, APRIL 26TH.
To Commence at Eight o'clock Precisely.

Subscription Tickets for the Two Recitals, 15s.; Single Tickets, 10s. 6d.;
Family Tickets, to admit three to one Recital, £1 1s.; Family Tickets, to
admit four to the Two Recitals, £2 2s.
Tickets to be obtained of Miss MADELENA CRONIN, 62, Welbeck-street,
Cavendish-square, W.

MISS VIOLA DACRE (late Theatre Royal,
Brighton). Theatre Royal Norwich, February 19th, for Twelve
Nights. Specially engaged by H. W. Pitt, Esq., for Four. All letters
addressed to "Holly Mount," West Hill, Wandsworth.

MISS HEATH'S PROVINCIAL TOUR,
Accompanied by Mr. WILSON BARRETT'S COMPANY,
suspended during Miss Heath's Engagement at the
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, LONDON.
The Company (re-arranged) will travel with
"THE SHAUGHRAUN,"
and appear at
GAITY THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL, Six Nights.
All letters to be addressed to Mr. WILSON BARRETT,
Princess's Theatre, London.
Agent, Mr. LEE ANDERSON. Acting Manager, Mr. MORRIS ARONS.

THEATRES.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.—
Every Evening, THE FORTY THIEVES. The Vokes Family.
Premiere Danseuse, Mdlle. Bossi; Double Harlequinade; Clowns, C.
Lauri and F. Evans; Harlequina à la Watteau, Miss Amy Rosalind. Pre-
ceded by HIDE AND SEEK. Prices from 6d. to £4 4s. Doors open at
6.30; commence at 7. Box-office open from 10 till 5 daily.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. B. Chatterton.

Under the immediate Patronage of H.R.H. the PRINCE OF WALES.

BENEFIT

In aid of a
TESTIMONIAL FUND
To the respected and popular Comedian,
MR. COMPTON.

Who has been suffering for a lengthened period from a severe and painful
malady, and who is now compelled to relinquish all hopes of resuming his
Profession.

MR. CHATTERTON has kindly given the use of the Theatre on
THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 1877.
HON. TREASURER—C. W. Thompson, Esq. Guildhall, E.C.
HON. SECRETARY—Charles Harcourt, Haymarket Theatre, S.W.
Doors open at 12.30; commence at 12.50 precisely.

Overture. The Council Scene from Shakespeare's Tragedy of
OTHELLO. Recitation, "The Charge of the Light Brigade," Miss
Heath. The First Act of Lord Lytton's Play of MONEY. Recitation,
"The Uncle," Mr. Henry Irving. Mr. Maddison Morton's Farce of
LEND ME FIVE SHILLINGS. Scene from Macklin's Comedy of
THE MAN OF THE WORLD. The Last Act of Sheridan's CRITIC;
or, A TRAGEDY REHEARSED. Selection or Overture. The Dramatic
Cantata by Arthur Sullivan and W. S. Gilbert, TRIAL BY JURY.
The Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Sullivan.
Acting Manager, Mr. C. A. Jacks.
Stage Manager, Mr. James Johnstone.

ROYAL ADELPHI THEATRE.—
THIS EVENING, at 7, Pantomime, LITTLE GOODY TWO
SHOES, performed entirely by children, At 9, SHAUGHRAUN, Messrs.
C. Sullivan, S. Barry, W. Terriss, F. Tyars, J. G. Shore, H. Vaughan,
Messdames Rose Coghlan, Hudspeth, Taylor, C. Nott, Everard, &c.

LOST IN LONDON. EVERY EVENING.
—Characters by Mr. S. Emery, Mr. H. Jackson, Mr. Revell, Mr.
C. J. Smith, Mr. G. Weston, Mr. H. Evans, Mr. E. Travers, Miss Rose
Coghlan, Miss F. Leslie, Mrs. Alfred Mellon, &c. Box-office open from 10
till 5 daily.—ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

GAITY THEATRE, STRAND.—Sole
Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD.—TOOLE
in ARTFUL CARDS, and JACQUES STROP. Every Night 8 to 11.
Open 7. Farce 7.15. Close 11. Prices from 6d. No Fees. AFTER-
NOON PERFORMANCES, every Wednesday and Saturday, (see Daily
Papers).

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—
Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. B. Buckstone.

Every Evening, till further notice, at 7.30, C. M. Rael's Comedy, FOL-
LOW THE LEADER. Miss Annie Lafontaine, Miss Irwin, Mr. Herbert,
&c. After which at 8.30, will be revived Mr. W. S. Gilbert's Mythological
Comedy PYGMALION AND GALATEA. Cynisca, Miss Henrietta
Hodson; Galatea, Miss Marion Terry; Myrene, Miss Maria Harris;
Daphne, Miss Chippendale; Pygmalion, Mr. Charles Harcourt; Chryso,
Mr. Buckstone; and, Leucippe, Mr. Howe. Concluding with BIRDS
IN THEIR LITTLE NESTS AGREE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—SHAKSPEARE'S
KING RICHARD III.

MR. HENRY IRVING as DUKE OF GLOSTER.
MISS BATEMAN as QUEEN MARGARET.
Every Evening till further notice, at 7.45, KING RICHARD III.
Richard Duke of Gloucester, Mr. Henry Irving; Queen Margaret, Miss
Bateman; Lady Anne, Miss Isabel Bateman. Scenery by Hawes Craven;
Music by R. Stoepel. Preceded at 7.0 by THE LOTTERY TICKET.

ROYAL ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—
Lessee and Manager, Mrs. JOHN WOOD.—THE DANISCHEFFS.

Unanimously pronounced by the Press and Public the great Success of the
Season. On Monday, and during the week, at 8.15, will be presented
in Four Acts, THE DANISCHEFFS—Characters by Mr. Hermann
Vezin, Mr. John Clayton, Mr. C. Warner, Mr. C. Cooper, Mr. W. H.
Macklin, Mr. Sandford, Mr. A. Parry, Mr. Darrell, Mr. Barry, Mr.
Winstanley, &c.; Miss Lydia Foote, Miss Fanny Addison, Miss Maria
Daly, Miss Edith Challis, Miss Lavis, Miss Willmore, and Mrs. John
Wood. Preceded by, at 7.30, a Laughable Farce.—Box office open from
10 till 5. Doors open at 7.

FOLLY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Mana-
ger, Mr. ALEX. HENDERSON.

MISS LYDIA THOMPSON in comedy and burlesque.
LAST NIGHTS OF ROBINSON CRUSOE.
Immense Success of NINE POINTS OF THE LAW. Every Evening
during the week the performance will commence at 7.30, with a Ballet
D'ACTION PERPETUAL MOTION, Mr. Harry Collier and company.
At 8 o'clock, NINE POINTS OF THE LAW, Miss Lydia Thompson,
Messrs. Brough, Edouin, Day, Forrester; Messdames Emily Duncan, and
Merville. At 9.30 (for the last nights) ROBINSON CRUSOE, Miss
Lydia Thompson and the Entire Company. In preparation a (Grand
Burlesque Extravaganza, by Messrs. R. Keece and H. B. Farnie, which will be
produced on a scale of exceptional splendour on the withdrawal of Robin-
son Crusoe. Morning Performances every Saturday.
NEXT SATURDAY Mr. Charles Wyndham and the entire company
from the Criterion Theatre, in HOT WATER. Doors open at 2, com-
mencing at 2.30. Seats can now be secured. No booking fees.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and
Manager, Mr. ALEX. HENDERSON.

MR. CHARLES WYNDHAM and a Most Powerful Company. ON
BAIL, an immense success. Every Evening during the week at 7.30,
DOROTHY'S STRATAGEM, by J. Mortimer. At 8.45, ON BAIL, a
farical comedy in 3 acts by W. S. Gilbert. Charles Wyndham, J. Clarke,
E. Righton, H. Ashley, C. Tritton, &c. Messdames Nelly Bromley,
Eastlake, Bruce, Davis, Myra, Holmes, and Fanny Josephs. Seats
can be secured two weeks in advance. MORNING PERFORMANCE next
SATURDAY, 3rd MARCH, at the FOLLY THEATRE, of HOT
WATER. Supported by Mr. Charles Wyndham and the entire Company.
Acting Manager, Mr. H. J. Hitchens.

GLOBE THEATRE.—In consequence of the
rehearsals necessary for the production of
C O R A

this Theatre will be CLOSED on MONDAY and TUESDAY, Feb. 26th
and 27th.

GLOBE THEATRE.—WEDNESDAY Next,
Feb. 28, First Night of a new drama,
"C O R A."

in a prologue and three acts, by W. G. Wills and Frank Marshall (the
main incidents taken from Adolphe Belot's "L'Article 47"), in which
MRS. HERMANN VEZIN
will appear, prior to her departure for Australia and America. Characters
by Messrs. James Fernandez, Edmund Leathes, Beveridge, W. H. Stephens,
David Fisher, jun., Harcourt, Paul Gray, Balfour, &c.; Messdames
Telbin, Nellie Harris, and Mrs. Hermann Vezin. New scenery by Mr.
Bruce Smith. Box-office open daily at the Theatre.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.
MR. JOHN S. CLARKE EVERY EVENING.

On Saturday February 24, Monday, 26, and until further notice, doors
open at 7.0. Commence at 7.30 with KEEP YOUR TEMPER. At a
quarter to eight, a comedy in three acts, BABES AND BEETLES. Mr.
John S. Clarke, Mr. Vernon, Misses Venne, Turner, &c. Conclude with
THE FIELD OF THE CLOTH OF GOLD. Messrs. Cox, Marius,
Taylor; Messdames Venne, Brunel, Jones &c.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Mr. Henry Neville,
Sole Lessee.—QUEEN OF CONNAUGHT. Re-appearance in
London of MISS ADA CAVENDISH in a New and Picturesque Comedy
Drama called "THE QUEEN OF CONNAUGHT." Mr. Henry Neville
as John Darlington. Mr. W. J. Hill, Mr. J. A. Arnold, Mr. Flockton.
Miss Dubois and Miss Gerard. Every Evening at 7.45. Preceded at 7, by
RAISING THE WIND.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Mr. Hare
Lessee and Manager.—Every Evening, punctually at Eight o'clock,
NEW MEN AND OLD ACRES, written by Tom Taylor and A. W.
Dubourg. The principal characters will be acted by Miss Ellen Terry,
Mrs. Gaston Murray, Mrs. Stephens, Miss Kate Aubrey; Mr. Kelly, Mr.
Anson, Mr. Conway, Mr. Ersser Jones, and Mr. Hare. The new scenery
painted by Messrs. Gordon and Harford.—Doors open at 7.30. Box-office
hours 11 to 5.—Acting-Manager, Mr. John Huy. Third Morning Per-
formance, Saturday, Feb. 24.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.—Lessees
Messrs. D. James and T. Thorne. Enormous Success of OUR
BOYS. Every Evening, at 7.30, A WHIRLIGIG; at 8, the most
successful comedy, OUR BOYS, written by H. J. Byron. Concluding
with A FEARFUL FOG; supported by Messrs. William Farren, David
James, C. W. Garthorne, J. P. Bernard, W. Lestocq, A. Austin and
Thomas Thorne. Messdames Amy Roselle, Kate Bishop, Nellie Walters,
Cicely Richards, Sophie Larkin, &c. Acting Manager, Mr. D. McKay.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—ORPHEE AUX

ENFERS.—Every Evening at 8.0.—Triumphant success of Offen-
bach's chef d'œuvre.—Miss Kate Santley as Eurydice. Supported by
Messrs. J. D. Stoye, Hallam, Seymour, Kelleher; Messdames Rose
Cullen, Ella Collins, and a brilliant company. Enthusiastic reception of
THE THREE CONSPIRATORS, in which Miss Kate Santley sings her
popular song, "Nobody Know" (encored nightly); a French cafe
chantant song, "A la Theresa" (encored three times); a Swiss "Jodel"
song (encored four times), etc. Mr. Stoye and Mr. Beyer, every evening
at 10. LISCHEN AND FRITZCHEN, at 7.30. Prices, 6d. to £3 3s.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—BIORN.—Grand

Romantic Opera. Music by Lauro Rosse, Libretto by Frank Mar-
shall, scenery by Gordon and Harford. Charming characteristic ballet,
costumes and scenic effects by Alfred Thompson. Splendid band and
chorus, selected from Her Majesty's and the Royal Italian Operas.
Conductor, Signor Tito Mattei, universally pronounced to be the most
splendidly mounted opera ever produced in England. Every night (except
Wednesdays). Doors open at 7.30, commence at 8, concludes at 11. Seats
can be secured at all the libraries, and at the Box office of the Theatre.

SANGER'S GRAND NATIONAL AMPHI-
THEATRE, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD.

This Saturday and Monday next, Morning and Evening, February 24 and 26,
ANNUAL BENEFIT of the Proprietors, Messrs. JOHN and GEORGE
SANGER. Last 7 Nights of the PANTOMIME. Monday March 5th,
Production with New Scenery &c., of the Hippodramatic Spectacle, DICK
TURPIN, illustrating vividly all the romantic incidents, making famous
the career of this noted Highwayman, and introducing the Beautiful and
Highly-trained mare BLACK BESS, which was the theme of universal
admiration in the same character in this Theatre two years since. The
character of Dick Turpin will be impersonated by Mr. Henry Bertrand.
An Entire New Company of Equestrian Artists will also make their
first appearance in London.

SANGER'S GRAND NATIONAL AMPHI-
THEATRE.—SATURDAY and MONDAY, February 24 and 26,
Morning and Evening.—SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS, for the ANNUAL
BENEFIT of Messrs. JOHN and GEORGE SANGER.

ROYAL GRECIAN THEATRE, City-road.—
SOLE PROPRIETOR—MR. GEORGE CONQUEST.

Dancing in the New Hall.
NOTICE.—THE LAST MORNING PERFORMANCE of the
PANTOMIME will take place on MONDAY, Feb. 26th, at 1.30.
Every evening, at 7.15, the Grand New Pantomime, by Messrs. George
Conquest and Henry Spry, entitled GRIM GOBLIN; or, HARLEQUIN
OCTOPUS, the DEVIL FISH and the FAIRIES of the FLOWERY
DELL. Supported by Mr. George Conquest, Messrs. Herbert Camp-
bell, Geo. Conquest, jun., Henry Nicholls, Vincent; Mdlles. Du Maurier,
Victor, Denvil, Inch, Sisters Claremont, &c. Music arranged by Mr. Oscar
H. Barrett. A grand ballet by a numerous and efficient corps de ballet.
A Wondrous Fight Scene, by Mr. George Conquest and Son, introducing
new Jumps, Leaps, Dives, &c. To be followed by the Harlequinade.
Clown, Mr. Inch; Pantaloon, Mr. Ash; Harlequin, Mr. Ozmond; and
Columbines, Misses Barry and Ozmond.—Acting Manager, Mr. Alphonse
Roques.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, HOXTON.—Sole

Proprietress, Mrs. S. Lane.—Every Evening, at 7.30, the brilliant
Pantomime of TURLUUTU; or, THE THREE ENCHANTED HATS.
Mrs. S. Lane, Mr. Fred Foster, Miss Pollie Randall, Messrs. Bigwood,
Lewis, Drayton, Fox, Rhoyds, Reeve, Pitt. Mdlles. Summers, Kayner,
Mrs. Newham. Mdlles. Fanny Rosina and Theresa Lupino. Harlequi-
nade by the Lupino Troupe. Preceded by, at 6.45, SAVED BY A WORD.
Messrs. Reynolds, Newbound, Jackson, J. B. Howe. Mdlles. Adams,
Bellair, Brewer.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE, Argyll-
street, Oxford Circus, W.—THIS EVENING, the Hippo-
dramatic Spectacle of TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK, and the "Death of
Black Bess," introducing the best trained mare in Europe. The First
Appearance of the Brothers Huline, the inimitable musical grotesques,
together with the Excelsior Troupe of Equestrians, Gymnasts, and Clowns.
Open at 7, commencing at 7.30.

HENGLER'S GRAND CIRQUE, Argyll-
street, Oxford-circus.—In consequence of the great success attend-
ing the representations of the Juvenile Spectacle CINDERELLA, it will
be repeated at the MORNING PERFORMANCE on SATURDAY,
Feb. 24. Open at 2, commence at 2.30. Extraordinary achievements by
the renowned Troupe of Equestrians, Gymnasts, and Clowns, together with
a great display of horse training.

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the renowned Troupe of Equestrians, Gymnasts, and Clowns, together with
a great display of horse training.

LAST WEEK BUT ONE OF MATCHED AND MATED.

MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED'S
ENTERTAINMENT, MATCHED AND MATED. By F. C.
Burnand, Music by German Reed. After which, a new musical sketch by
Mr. Corney Grain, entitled SPRING'S DELIGHTS, and A NIGHT
SURPRISE, by W. Cromer; Music by German Reed. Mrs. German
Reed, Miss Fanny Holland, Miss Leonora Braham, Mr. Corney Grain,
Mr. A. Law, and Mr. Alfred Reed. Every Evening, except Thursday
and Saturday, at 8; morning representations every Thursday and Satur-
day at 3. Admission, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 5s. Can be secured in ad-
vance, without fee.
ST. GEORGE'S HALL, LANGHAM-PLACE, OXFORD-CIRCUS.

EGYPTIAN LARGE HALL (England's home
of mystery), Piccadilly.—Messrs. MASKELYNE and COOKE'S
novel and original ILLUSORY ENTERTAINMENT, daily at three and
eight o'clock. Added to the programme is the wonderful performance of
Herr Schalkenbach on his orchestre militaire electromoteur.—Admission
5s., 3s., 2s., and 1s. Box-office open all day, where seats can be booked
free of charge. Carriages should be ordered for five and ten o'clock.—W.
Morton, Manager.

MASKELYNE and COOKE.

NEW SEANCE TO-DAY at three, and
TO-NIGHT at eight.

MORE SENSATIONAL THAN EVER.

THE SPIRITS SUPERSEDED.

MR. COOKE FLOATS in the ROOM.

TAKING with him the CABINET,
In which he is secured.

NO SPIRIT MEDIUM can submit to such
severe tests as are now applied to Mr. Cooke, and produce any
manifestations whatever.

MASKELYNE and COOKE.—As there is a
great demand for seats and no charge for booking, intending
visitors should secure their places without delay.

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GAR-
DENS, Regent's-park, are open daily (except Sunday). Admis-
sion 1s., on Monday 6d., children always 6d. The Collection of Hunting
Trophies and Zoological specimens made during the Indian tour of
H. K.H. the Prince of Wales, is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

RICH BLACK SILK COSTUMES.

Messrs. JAY beg to announce that in order to effect an immediate clearance of their rich Black Silk Costumes, and make room for other Novelties in Dress, the following reductions have been made in their stock:

10½ guineas, late 21 guineas.
14½ guineas, late 28½ guineas.
21½ guineas, late 55 guineas.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

GENUINE BLACK SILKS.

WHOLESALE PRICES.

Messrs. JAY, being sorry to find in the frequent piracy of their advertisements of Black Silks that an inferior article to that which they offer is too frequently palmed upon the public, beg to assure all customers that their Genuine Black Silks, from 2s. 10d. per yard, cannot be matched for cheapness, either in the home or foreign Silk Markets.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

BLACK SILK DEPARTMENT.

French Gros Grain Black Silk, 24in. wide, 2s. 10d. per yard, late 4s. 3d.

3s. 9d. per yard, late 5s. 3d.
4s. 6d. " " late 5s. 9d.
5s. 3d. " " late 6s. 9d.
5s. 9d. " " late 8s. 9d.
6s. 9d. " " late 9s. 6d.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

BLACK LENTEN COSTUMES, 2 guineas

and 2½ guineas each.

Messrs. JAY, having had numerous applications from their Pa'roneesses for some kind of Black Dress suitable to the Season of Lent, have produced special Lenten Costumes which, with a sufficient quantity for a Bodice unmade, they are selling at 2 guineas and 2½ guineas each, and which have already obtained the most extensive approval.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

IMPROVED JANUS CORD,

BOTH SIDES ALIKE.

Ladies who at this season of the year wear Black Dresses will find JANUS CORD, at 1s. 11s. 6d. the full-dress length, one of the most economical and best fabrics at the price ever manufactured for a lady's dress.

JAY'S, Regent-street.

MOURNING.—"To our Readers.—In reply

to many inquiries, we recommend the Maison Jay's London Mourning Warehouse, Regent-street. This house, long established, makes mourning a specialty, and is excelled by no other house in London or Paris for the beauty of the work, the quality of the materials, or the style of manufacture. As so many ladies wear black by choice, it may be useful to mention the black silk costumes of Messrs. Jay at 6½ guineas. These dresses are made in the height of fashion and in excellent black silk. Messrs. Jay send dressmakers to any part of England with patterns and materials for mourning on receipt of letter or telegram."—*Myra's Journal*.

JAY'S,

The London General Mourning Warehouse, Regent-street, W.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE

ORIGINAL PICTURES, DRAWINGS, & SKETCHES,

BY ARTISTS OF THE

Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News

Including examples by

JOHN STURGESS, F. BARNARD, MATT STRETCH, DOWER WILSON, H. PETHERICK, H. FURNISS, and Others.

Also fine proofs on plate paper for framing of the principal Engravings now appearing in this Journal, at the following nominal prices:—

Double Page Size, 2s.; Single Page, 1s.; Half Page, 6d.
(Sent by Post for One Penny extra.)

NOW ON VIEW AND FOR SALE,

FROM 11 TILL 5, AT

THE GALLERY,

ATTACHED TO THE OFFICES OF

"THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS,"

148, STRAND, LONDON.

ADMISSION BY PRESENTING ADDRESS CARD.

NEXT WEEK'S NUMBER

OF THE

ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS,

will contain a Portrait of

THE HON. MRS. WROTTESELEY

(being the third of the Aristocratic and Distinguished Amateurs), with a notice by LORD WILLIAM LENNOX.

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER SCENE IN "RICHARD III.," at the Lyceum.

WATERLOO WINNERS.

Drawn from Life, by R. H. MOORE.

CHINESE THEATRICALS.

PORTRAIT OF MR. COMPTON.

PORTRAIT OF THE LATE MR. JOHN OXENFORD, with a Biographical Notice by Mr. FRANK MARSHALL.

EMILIE PLUNKETT GRATTAN AND HARRY PLUNKETT GRATTAN IN "GOODY TWO SHOES."

HUMOURS OF THE PAST MONTH.

Drawn by MATT STRETCH.

AFTER DINNER.

SILVER CUP PRESENTED TO CAPTAIN NEWALL, AT SCARBOROUGH.

THE CAPTIOUS CRITIC, &c.

** Reviews of "Wallace's Russia," "Bound to Win," &c., will appear next week.

** Mr. Friston's drawing from *Richard III.* at the Lyceum Theatre was not sufficiently advanced to be included this week as announced. It will appear in our next number.

We are compelled to hold over until next week our usual items of Stud News.

THE ILLUSTRATED Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1877.

CIRCULAR NOTES.

BETTER service is being done, in the reform of feminine dress, by improved education in art and natural history, than all the preaching in the world would ever be likely to effect. Girls who attend classes of drawing and colour have their ideas of the picturesque very soon turned upon their own dear selves; and if a little knowledge of nature

be added to their artistic skill, the result is that they look with contempt on an attire which betrays ignorance alike of the laws governing art and physical life. You don't see a girl-graduate of South Kensington, or of any accredited art-school, wearing half a pheasant in her hat, or indulging in the ridiculous fashion of fur-trimmings. In the latter case she knows that the fit object of fur-clothing is warmth, and that as a mere adornment, on the loose edges of a cloak or jacket, the fell of an animal is a meaningless and inappropriate addition. Success to the schools of art! say we. They are useful all round. They enable hundred of girls to earn a graceful livelihood, and they check the vulgarity of costume in which the housemaid and the duchess maintain a struggle for vicious ascendancy.

OUR good friend the Buffon of the *Daily Telegraph* has been down to the Crystal Palace. His presence at the bird show was indeed indispensable; and we are glad to perceive that our gentle hints have induced him to read his Guy's Pinnock more attentively. The blunders in his article are fewer than usual, but he could no more keep them out altogether than can Mr. Dick, of the Horticultural Gardens, keep blight and mildew off those woe-begone premises. Buffon Junior calls Mr. John Jenner Weir, "Mr. J. Fenner Weir;" a mistake for which that walking cyclopedia of natural science, who is not above the amiable weakness of vanity, will owe young B. a playful facer, to be paid at the first opportunity. B. informs us that that low comedian of ornithology, the laughing jackass, is exhibited by Mr. John Drake, "as a very clever, loquacious, and musical Australian piping crow." We suppose in charity that B. meant to say "as well as;" because, to exhibit a laughing jackass as a piping crow would be a fraud as transparent as to exhibit Buffon Junior in a lion's skin.

It seems that the venerated title, Serjeant-at-Law, is to be abolished with Serjeant's Inn. More's the pity! With the present generation there is no fear that the associations of that title will vanish utterly; for who among us can fail to link it with the names of Ballantine and Cox? But in a later era it will too surely be forgotten, and a foot-note will be needed to explain Swift's savage chaff of a learned serjeant in his day:

Thus, at the Bar, the booby Bettesworth—
Though half-a-crown outpays his sweat's worth—
Who knows in law nor text nor margent,
Calls Singleton his brother serjeant.

So wrote the Dean. By consequence, he had a visit from the learned gentleman a few days afterwards. "Sir," quoth the caller, "I am Serjeant Bettesworth." "Of what regiment, pray?" asked the Very Rev. the Dean of St. Patrick's.

We clip this advertisement from one of the daily papers:—

CAUGHT A FOX, Feb. 11th. If not claimed within three days after this date will be SOLD to pay expenses. Apply —.

"Who caught the fox? I, said the" &c., &c., is the most naturally new reading of an old relique, which occurs to us on perusing the above. But, leaving the realms of legendary lore, one wonders (1) whether the fox was lost from Leadenhall Market, and (2) whether, in the event of Reynard's not being restored to his original owner, he may be expected to show in that well-known poultry market prior to his emerging from a bag in a country otherwise destitute of legitimate excuses for a run?

MR. WALL, the somewhat litigious husband of Miss Annie Adams, has, for once in his remarkable career, come in contact with a doughty adversary. Mrs. Foli writes to a contemporary on behalf of Signor Foli to this effect:—"Will you please announce that the song, 'Jack's Yarn,' by Louis Diehl, can be sung by anyone who pleases—the more the merrier—independently of the individual Wall's permission, as it is the exclusive property (words and music) of Signor Foli. If the man Wall seeks to extort money for the performance of the song, 'Jack's Yarn,' he will be indicted for attempting to obtain money under false pretences, and find himself within four walls, each more substantial than himself. I have already received a letter from the firm of Jefferys, denying in toto that they had given any such authority to the person known as 'Wall.' Our contemporary adds, 'The composer, publisher, and royalty vocalist, state that 'Jack's Yarn' belongs to Signor Foli exclusively. Yet Wall, in his letter of January 22 to Mr. James Turpin, of Londonderry, modestly claims, on behalf of C. Jefferys, 'the sum of 5s., payable in advance to me for license to perform 'Jack's Yarn,' 29th inst., at Londonderry. The penalty for unauthorised performance is 40s.'" Leaving the matter in dispute to be settled by the parties thereto in the proper arena, a court of law, we would submit to those music publishers who deem it consonant with their dignity to employ detective aid, whether it might not be possible to devise a less obnoxious method of maintaining their copyrights and airing their copy-wrongs, than by having recourse to the services of Mr. Wall. The part of Banquo at a musical banquet is evidently one that he enjoys, but—think of the guests! We have no reason to consider him other than a friend of art—the appreciative husband of gifted Annie Adams could not be otherwise—but he has such a peculiar way of showing it, we had rather he retired from practice and turned over his portfolio to somebody else. He is too great for his present vocation. Running to earth suburban or rural singers of "By the sad sea waves," bowling out warblers of "If I had a donkey and he would not go," and silencing the interpreters of that divine ditty "Pom! Pom!" are pursuits unworthy of Mr. Wall's unappreciated genius. He ought to keep a 'pike.

STARS about to travel are earnestly recommended to secure an engagement on any terms at a certain palatial theatre, which is more or less situated on the banks of the coaly Tyne. A Monkbarns in search of examples of ancient scenery, might visit the place in confident ex-

pectation of finding at least one pair of "flats" and half-a-dozen "cloths" more than a century old. The rats which are bred on the premises excel in size, greed, and ferocity the most perfect specimens of that engaging creature to be met with in an eligible metropolitan sewer. There is enough water beneath the stage to form a huge swimming bath: nay, judging from the hue of the limpid element, the "well" must have been once used as a Saturday-night bath by the coal-trimmers of the neighbourhood. An American colonel of our acquaintance, who is pursuing the calling of an actor for mere amusement, is in treaty for the purchase of this structure. He is of opinion that the exhibition in London during the May meetings, of a Theatre Royal compared with which "the lowest dirtiest warehouse, or slaughter-house in the filthiest part of London, is a palace," would be patronised by those Exeter Hall people who ran Moody and Sankey with such distinguished success.

It is believed in well-informed circles that Mr. Chaplin did a big thing for his political future by suffering himself to be broken on the wheel of Mr. Gladstone's Homeric wrath one night last week. Are there any books open on that same political future we wonder? If there are, may we ask what price is obtainable against his landing the double event—the Cabinet Criterion, and the Peerage Wait-for-Age Stakes—over the Derby course? Mr. Chaplin won that other Derby in a snowstorm, with a colt just out of hospital; the said colt, starting at the outside price of thirty-three to one.

IN "the hurry of business," we failed to see through a dense joke with which we were favoured last week—at the expense of Mr. H. Forrester. He does not mind, he says, and we don't care very much: at the same time it may as well be known to readers at the Antipodes, that Mr. H. Forrester has not yet taken to the Lionel Brough line of characters.

MR. WALLIS MACKAY's House-of-Commons sketches in the current number of *Mayfair* are admirable. *Punch's* loss of "W. M." is *Mayfair's* decided gain.

WE hear with great regret, just before going to press, that John Oxenford, the dramatic critic of the *Times*, died at 4.30 on Thursday morning. Without going so far as to say that he was the last of the race, we may point out that in losing John Oxenford we miss an authority in the world of theatrical criticism worthy of being placed—if in a somewhat lower rank—alongside of Hazlitt and gentle Charles Lamb. "His very failings leaned to mercy's side." Compared with too many of his successors, his mould was heroic. Living, and in harness, he had few rivals worthy of his name. Dead, we think of him rather as one who passed a generation since than as one who left us yesterday. We promise ourselves the melancholy pleasure of giving, next week, in these columns a portrait of genial John Oxenford, with a biographical notice from the sympathetic pen of Mr. Frank Marshall.

MR. LIONEL BROUGH will take a benefit at the Gaiety Theatre in Easter week. On that occasion the house ought to be crammed from floor to ceiling. *She Stoops to Conquer* will be the principal feature of the bill.

MR. J. F. VERRALL's valuable library of dramatic works and gallery of theatrical sketches and pictures are to be sold. He was a loving and intelligent collector, and the result of his many years' purchases ought to yield a handsome sum. The task of arranging and cataloguing has been undertaken by Messrs. Lionel Brough and Edward Draper.

THE MEET OF THE FORFARSHIRE AT ANNISTON.

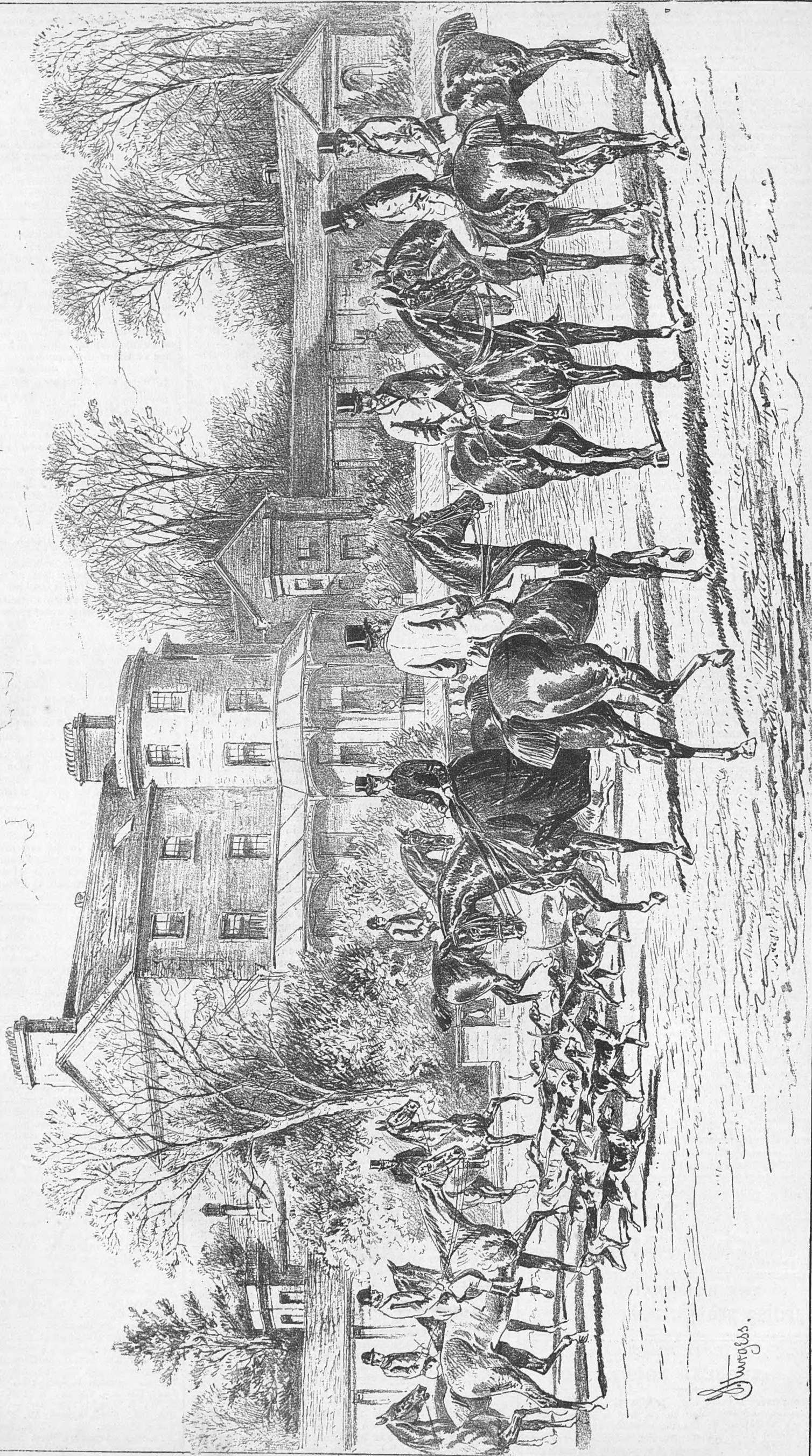
OWING to the non-arrival of Mr. J. Sturgess's description of a meet of the Forfarshire at Anniston, we are this week unable to present our readers with the text which ought to accompany our artist's drawing. He is home again, we are glad to say, but we are inclined to suspect that he has not yet recovered from the effects of the overwhelming hospitalities incidental to his pleasant excursion across the Tweed.

WE ought to have stated last week that we were indebted to Messrs. Goupil for permission to reproduce Fortuny's picture "A Wedding in Spain."

"A THING at Brighton" is the title of a grotesque narrative of the visit of artist and author to the town of Brighton, which is now appearing from week to week in *Yorick*.

ROYAL DRAMATIC COLLEGE.—A public meeting was held in the saloon of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, at half-past two o'clock on Thursday, for the purpose of considering what steps may be deemed advisable to extricate the Royal Dramatic College from its present financial difficulties. It was stated that thirteen aged and infirm inmates, unable to follow their professional avocations, were in the College, and that the council were without funds to pay the current expenses.

PROPOSED MEET OF BICYCLISTS.—The preliminary meeting, convened by the Pickwick Bicycle Club, for the purpose of organising a meet of bicyclists, was held on Tuesday, 20th inst., at the Guildhall Tavern. Between 50 and 60 gentlemen, representing the following bicycle clubs were present:—Beckenham, Canonbury, Civil Service, Clapham, Croydon, Crystal Palace District, Happy-Go-Luckies, Hornsey, Kingston, Kent, London, Middlesex, North London, North Surrey, Pickwick, Rovers, Royal District, St. Georges, South London Harriers, Stanley, Surrey, Swifts, Temple, Tower Hamlets, Trafalgar, Wanderers, and West Kent. Mr. J. Copland, Surrey Bicycle Club, was elected to the chair. The object for which the meeting was convened was fully discussed, and it was finally resolved that the Monster Meet take place at the Lion Gates, Hampton Court, on Saturday, May 26th, at 5 o'clock. The following gentlemen were elected to serve on the Committee, to carry out the detailed arrangements:—J. Copland, Surrey; M. D. Rücker, London; K. M. Yeoman, Pickwick; H. Etherington, Temple; A. W. Lucy, Kent; J. Coppin, West Kent; W. Denny, Wanderers; S. W. J. Wright, Kingston; — Kearley, Royal District; J. Fox, Jun., North Surrey; W. Turner, Stanley; and F. Moore, Tower Hamlets. Mr. L. C. B. Yeoman, Pickwick Bicycle Club, 46, Colveston-crescent, West Hackney, was elected Hon. Sec. It is expected that out of the clubs represented, over 800 bicyclists will put in an appearance.



MEET OF THE FORFARSHIRE HUNT AT ANNISTON.

J. Burgess.

THE ROYAL PADDOCKS.

It has been the fashion of late years for sporting writers to speak of Hampton Court as a sort of Nazareth among breeding depôts, from which nothing good proceeds, and no abuse has been considered too violent in decrying the place, its management, produce, and traditions. We have invariably spoken out our mind candidly on the matter, and have endeavoured to show where the shortcomings were, and how, in our humble judgment, they might most satisfactorily be remedied. The drawbacks at the Royal Paddocks have made themselves patent enough to all interested in the pursuit of breeding, and while the collection of mares contained many ancient tabbies and youthful obscurities, while the system of utilizing only the sires which happened to be standing at livery then prevailed, while no means were taken to purge the pastures from the taint of many generations of horse-flesh—it was difficult to say a good word for the place and its belongings. It was felt that if the thing were worth doing at all, it should be done in that right royal manner, befitting the dignity of our Sovereign Lady, instead of being a bye-word, a reproach, and a laughing-stock among Her Majesty's lieges; and until something was done to improve affairs, the ancient reputation of the place was never likely to return. We are glad to be able to chronicle a change in one very important department, a paramount change indeed, but not likely to be of any lasting service, unless adopted in connection with other reforms, which we trust may be speedily forthcoming. We must not expect too much at once, but be thankful for small blessings, one of which is, that purchasers will find themselves better suited on the next sale-day than heretofore, recourse having been had to external and popular sources of blood, which had long been required, as the only reform likely to set the Royal Stud upon its legs once more, and to collect something akin to the august assemblages ranged round the rostrum in years gone by.

Of late years the same old-fashioned bill of fare has been placed in our hands, with all its venerable standing dishes of Trumpeter, Young Melbourne, St. Albans, and Co., served up in different forms, until the palate became as nauseated with the dismal repetition, as the herbage under foot with its everlasting burden of thoroughbreds. Now, that unsatisfactory sire, Trumpeter, has been spirited away to Graditz, to serve the Germans better than his own countrymen, let us hope; while Young Melbourne is going rapidly down the vale of years, and the Saint is experiencing a sort of latter day revival, thanks to such stalwart supporters as Julius Cæsar and Springfield. Prince Charlie and Pell Mell show their first fruits this year, but it is not on the secessions from, or additions to, the stallion list, that we lay so much stress, as on the generally improved system of mating mares, and seeking the fresher strains of blood in the kingdom, wherewith to renovate and refresh home sources. Among the yearlings we find representatives of such well-tried and approved good stallions as Parmesan, Blair Athol, and Favonius, while the young Prince Charlies make a very favourable show indeed, and are well backed up by some of the old stock by St. Albans, Melbourne, and supplemented by scions of Pell Mell and others. There are mares roaming about heavy in foal to Doncaster, Cremorne, and Parmesan, and though the list for the current year is not yet made out, no doubt the same policy will be adopted, and we hope in a larger majority of cases, so as at least to bring the Royal establishment up to the standard of ordinary English Stud farms. Half a score of young, healthy mares, with a few older matrons of some reputation at the stud, would set things going in earnest; but no grand results can be expected from the outlay necessary to secure these desirable additions, without some change of pasture from the present unsatisfactory herbage in the jealously walled paddocks. Better to "dwell in tents" or in temporary boxes for a course of years than to retain the present system of accommodation, which cannot be expected to produce such satisfactory results as would inevitably ensue after the occupation of "pastures new" for a very short period. The coarse, rank grass has been well eaten down by the herd of black-poll Scotch, which settled down to their work in good earnest, and no doubt the change wrought will be a salutary one, but after all, the benefit is but temporary and not abiding, and we would fain see a large tract of park land handed over from the fallow deer to his neighbour, the thoroughbred. The course of time must bring about this much-needed reform, but the longer it is postponed the slower will be the progress of the stud towards the perfection which should distinguish an imperial undertaking. The yearlings are seventeen, "all told," and the colts run up to three times the number of the fillies, the proportion being thirteen to four, so that in one respect at least fortune has declared for the Royal Stud. We were especially pleased with the Prince Charlies, and as all of them are perfectly sound in their wind at present, let us hope that the dismal predictions of many "d—d good-natured friends" may be signally discounted, though we must still adhere to our opinion originally expressed, that it is somewhat a bold measure to fly in the face of experience and tradition, and to put down a cool fifty for the services of a horse which our Continental customers would not touch at any price. However, there can be no doubt that so far as looks are concerned the scions of the mighty grampus leave very little to be desired, most of them inheriting his fine sloping shoulders and square-built, fashionable quarters, showing much style and quality throughout. In bone they compare favourably with the Blair Athols, and if they are able to race, which seems almost a foregone conclusion, and escape all suspicion of wind infirmity, there may be a future as brilliant as the past in store for the redoubtable "Prince of the T.Y.C."



MR. BASIL YOUNG.

Premising the present notice of the Royal yearlings to be merely in the nature of a "rough gallop in clothes," we may take them in batches under the headings of their respective sires; and among seventeen lots we find no less than eight sires represented—Blair Athol, St. Albans, and Young Melbourne each claiming a brace; Prince Charlie and Pell Mell both with the lion's share of four appended to their names; and solitary specimens of Trumpeter, Favonius, and Parmesan. We like Blair Athol's filly out of Miss Evelyn (quite the favourite cross) far better than his brown colt from Inez; for while the former stands squarer and truer on her legs, and has far the largest share of bone and power, the latter is inclined to be a little narrow, and does not follow well at present, whatever improvement may be effected by subsequent development. St. Albans can show nothing approaching in promise to either Springfield or Julius

pretty tune when first enlarged in his playground. Young Melbourne's filly from Gunga Jee, is an especial favourite at Hampton Court, but we should prefer waiting awhile before committing ourselves to any decided opinion on her merits. At present she is vastly superior in all points to the Periwig colt (with the Venison grey ticks plentifully sprinkled over his bay coat), the latter being decidedly on the small side, and looking as if two months' sunshine and a little spring grass would give him a fresh start in life. The young Melbournes have declined greatly in public estimation of late years, but it is hard lines for the old horse to have had such perverse Derby luck, with two such bold bidders for honour as General Peel and Pell Mell, and with The Earl forbidden to cast in his lot with Blue Gown.

The quartet of Prince Charlies we have before adverted to are decidedly good advertisements for their sire, but we take the pick of the basket to be a bay with blaze face and white legs, out of that very good mare Merevale. He has good arms and thighs, well shaped legs, and carries himself as becomes a real swell, perhaps a trifle too flashily, but he looks like furnishing into a worthy chip of the old block, and promises to be busy among his two year old contemporaries. Next to him we prefer a chestnut colt out of Sister to Little Lady, built quite on Charlie's lines, and a fine topped yearling; but we only saw him in his box, and so cannot vouch for his powers of going, but if he is not quick upon his legs then appearances and pedigree must go for nothing. Then there is a bay colt from Furiosa, and a brown filly from Venus, each showing a fair amount of promise, but not so forward as those we have described more in detail. A bay colt by Trumpeter out of Garnish moves well, though slightly "on leg," and then we come to the Pell Mell, whose best is a lengthy chestnut from Liaison, but we are not much in love with the first specimens of this stallion's stock, and he seems to get them all shapes and sizes, and without much character or quality. Two representatives of the Sweetmeat family, which will help considerably to swell the average of the coming June sale, are a bay colt by Favonius out of Apple Sauce, and a brown by Parmesan out of Miss Foote. The former is the biggest yearling about the place, and seems to be growing the right way, while his companion is a bit short at present, but very racing-like, and well made over back and loins. Mr. Scott looks forward to a good season, all the mares sent away to expensive stallions last year being in foal, and Viridis bears a valuable burden to St. Albans once more. Among recent arrivals we noticed Fravolina, Scarlet Runner, and a few others; and the stallions all look in hard health, especially St. Albans and Prince Charlie, and each of them ought to have a prosperous season, looking at the antecedents of one, and the promise held out by the yearling stock of the other.

FAMOUS PLAYERS OF THE PAST CENTURY.

MR. WILLIAM OXBERRY.

In Moorfields, exactly opposite Bedlam, towards the close of the last century lived an auctioneer named Oxberry; and to him on the 18th of December 1784, was born a son whom he named William. William was troublesome as he went up in years and it is said that his father consequently often, amongst his other lots had to knock him down. But he gave William an excellent education, and finding that he was of an erratic and somewhat indolent disposition unfitted for the routine duties of ordinary business determined to make him a painter. But young Oxberry's ideas of drawing differed from those of the eminent artist to whose care he was entrusted. He had imbibed a passionate love of the stage, and his dreams were of drawing audiences to fill the pit, boxes, and gallery, in some London theatre. Disheartened by the despairing accounts rendered of his son's progress in the painter's studio, the father at length removed, and apprenticed him to Mr. Searle, a printer in the Tottenham Court-road. Matthews said that he made but a sorry apprentice, and would have been more sorry had not his master shared his passion for the stage, and unwisely encouraged his apprentices to join him in neglecting the business in favour of amateur acting until every proof they issued became a glaring proof of their neglectfulness. In 1802 his master very willingly made Oxberry a present of his indentures and soon after the persevering amateur induced the father of Douglas Jerrold, who was then a theatrical manager at Watford, to give him an engagement in "the heavy line." The first part he played there was Antonio in the *Merchant of Venice*. At Godalming he soon after appeared as Richard III., and from there he went to join Mr. Trotter of the Worthing and Hythe Theatres as "low comedian," to play with Fitzwilliam and the Vinings, who were afterwards respectively managers of the Haymarket and Olympic theatres. He still, however, occasionally played the leading parts in tragedy, and did not refuse at the same time to make himself generally useful by singing between the acts—he never had the least idea of tune by-the-bye, and scorned time—by printing the bills, and occasionally painting the scenes—such scenes! It was then that he met, loved, wooed, and won, a young lady of sixteen, Miss Catherine Hewitt, by whom he afterwards had three children, two of whom, a daughter and son, afterwards adopted their father's profession.

In 1807, Mrs. Siddons saw Oxberry play at Worthing, and spoke so well of him in London that he was soon afterwards invited to join John Kemble and his company at Covent Garden Theatre. Full of pride and delight William hurried to London. At last the rubicon was past, and he could emerge from the obscurity of the provinces into the full blaze of fame and fortune—



PORTRAIT OF W. OXBERRY IN CHARACTER.

Cæsar, but there is a deal of real good stuff about his brace of browns. The Lady of the Manor filly has a racing-like cut about her, though not built on a very large scale, and it is to be regretted that her dam has thrown so few winners to her numerous consorts. The St. Albans colt is a level, well-turned youngster, with plenty of fashion and quality, good length, and a sound, wiry-looking set of limbs, which he can use to a very

giving London. The thought overpowered him. He could scarcely muster courage enough to enter the stage-door of the stately theatre, when the night of his first appearance upon its stage arrived. He was to play the part of Robin Roughton, and when dressed for it was so overcome by that awful thing called stage fright that he was actually forced upon the stage and stood before a metropolitan audience for the first time, trembling and speechless, completely stupefied. His performance was a failure. On the following night he appeared as Lord Dubberly, but again made no very favourable impression. John Kemble lost faith in him, and gave him so few opportunities of displaying his real power that he was heartily glad when the end of the season came, and he could request Mr. Harris to release him from the engagement. Mr. Harris was perfectly willing to accede to his request, and so Oxberry shortly after was playing in Scotland, first in Edinburgh, then in Glasgow, and afterwards in Aberdeen, winning enthusiastic receptions and never-failing applause, with much coin. He was soon after invited to come to London and accept an engagement with Mr. Arnold, at the Lyceum Theatre. With some dread and much reluctance he went, made a decided hit, and from thence was once more induced to tread the boards of ancient Drury. He afterwards "starred" at all the minor theatres, and subsequently became stage-manager of the Olympic.

Oxberry had a strong taste for literature, contributed to several magazines, and at one time edited *The Monthly Mirror*, afterwards called *The Theatrical Inquirer*. He was also the author of several dramas, and edited an edition of plays still known by his name. A grandson of his (Mr. Vincent Oxberry) is well known in theatrical circles as an able stage manager, and other of his descendants are still connected with "the profession." He died on the 9th of June, 1824, in a fit of apoplexy. Our sketch is from a portrait published during his lifetime, representing him in one of his favourite low comedy parts, and in a state of comical perplexity as to the exact degree of sobriety he had attained on the previous night, as he had not the slightest recollection of how he got home or went to bed.

THE DRAMA.

BESIDES the amateur performance at the Opera Comique on Saturday, the only notable dramatic events of the week have been the two revivals noticed below. *Lost in London* at the Princess's on Saturday evening, and Mr. Tom Taylor's little comedy *Nine Points of the Law* at the Folly on Monday, and the re-opening as a regular afternoon theatre of the Royal Aquarium Theatre, on Wednesday.

Mr. Rice closed his pantomime season at Covent Garden on Saturday night when *Robinson Crusoe* was represented for the last time. The Standard pantomime will be withdrawn to-night, and the closing performances of those at Sangers' and Drury Lane take place next week.

At the Strand Mr. J. S. Clarke's continued indisposition caused his reappearance to be postponed until this evening, when Tom Taylor's Haymarket comedy *Babes in the Wood* will be produced under the altered title of *Babes and Beetles*, with Mr. Clarke in the part originally played by Mr. Buckstone. During the week Mr. Clarke's pieces have been replaced by *Rely on My Discretion* and the pleasant little comedy of *A Lesson on Love*. The popular burlesque of *The Field of the Cloth of Gold* has again been revived, and has been substituted for *The Lying Dutchman*.

At Hengler's the two extra day performances last week of the children's spectacle *Cinderella*, were so fully attended it was found expedient to give two more extra performances this week, the first of which took place on Wednesday, and the second will be given this afternoon.

At the Globe, for her benefit, on Wednesday night, Miss Jennie Lee appeared in two scenes from *Jo*, as also in *The Invisible Prince*. The first and only morning performance of Mr. Planche's extravaganza will take place to-day, for the benefit of Mr. Edgar Bruce, and the closing representation will be given this evening, after which Miss Jennie Lee proceeds to fulfil engagements in the provinces, commencing on Monday night at Glasgow.

The morning performances to-day will comprise, besides the pantomimes at Drury Lane, Adelphi, Sangers', the Surrey, &c., and the German Reads' entertainment, *The Trial from Pickwick* and *The Critic*, at the Gaiety; *Les Danischeffs*, at the St. James's; *New Men and Old Acres*, at the Court; *On Bail*, by the Criterion company, at the Folly; *The Invisible Prince*, at the Globe, for the benefit of Mr. Edgar Bruce; and the juvenile spectacle of *Cinderella*, at Hengler's.

The events announced for to-night are the production of Mr. Burnand's new three act farcical play of *Artful Cards* at the Gaiety, and the revival at the Strand, postponed from last week, in consequence of Mr. J. S. Clarke's illness, of Mr. Tom Taylor's Haymarket comedy of *Babes in the Wood* under the altered title of *Babes and Beetles*, with Mr. J. S. Clarke in the part originally sustained by Mr. Buckstone.

To-night also Mr. and Mrs. Billington, Miss Meyrick, and their company commence an engagement of a fortnight at the Park Theatre, when they will appear in Conway Edwards's drama of *Heroes*, which they recently played in at the Aquarium Theatre, and in Paul Meritt's Yorkshire drama of *Rough and Ready*.

On Monday evening, the performance at Drury Lane will be for the benefit of the clever Vokes Family, who will appear in the *Belles of the Kitchen*, as well as in the pantomime of the *Forty Thieves*.

On Wednesday the new drama *Cora*, by Messrs. G. Wills and Frank Marshall, on Adolphe Belot's *L'Article 47*, will be produced at the Globe, Mrs. Hermann Vezin appearing in the principal rôle, supported in other leading characters by Messrs. Fernandez, Leathes, Beveridge, W. H. Stephens, &c.

MR. FLEMING NORTON.—This clever entertainer, whose successful seasons at the Egyptian Hall and the Royal Strand Theatre will be in the recollection of many of our readers, gave his musical and mimetic entertainment, *Mrs. Perkins's Picnic*, on Tuesday evening last, at the Lecture Hall, Wimbledon, when a large number of the *beau monde* of the neighbourhood were attracted by his well-known talent. Indeed, as a delineator of female characters, Mr. Norton is unrivalled, and whether depicting a *grande dame de société*, or a gipsy fortune teller, he is always true to nature and utterly free from vulgarity. In the fourteen characters that he assumed, it is no small praise, considering the all-round excellence, to say that Mr. Fleming Norton excelled himself as "Twankey Bill," "Zachariah Chucklehead," and "Miss Teresa Twemlow." Mr. Norton is equally at home as an actor, singer, and whistler, and it is much to be hoped that he may soon again be induced to give Londoners a taste of his quality, which is so much appreciated in the suburbs and in province.

THE GIRARDS.—These extraordinary Mephistophelean gymnasts have been engaged by Mr. F. B. Chatterton for the "Old Drury" pantomime of 1877-78. Mr. Chatterton has shown his usual foresight in providing his "annual" with such powerful and attractive auxiliaries as this marvellous family, who on the termination of their engagement (at Easter) at the Alhambra will make a tour of the capitals of Europe, where their American and metropolitan fame is safe to ensure them a most successful tour.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

MR. WILLS's historical play of *Jane Shore*, after a successful career of several months, having been withdrawn on Friday night, was replaced in the bills by a revival of the late Mr. Watts Phillips's popular drama, *Lost in London*, which, although the present cast—with the exception of Mrs. Alfred Mellon and Mr. C. J. Smith, who resume their original characters, and Mr. S. Emery, who again, as in the former revival of this drama two years ago at this house, is the representative of the poor Lancashire miner, Job Armoyd—is not comparable to those of the original or the subsequent revival, the deep human interest of the simple story, cleverly carried through by skilfully contrived and exciting incidents, are sufficient to account for the renewed vitality of this drama, and the favor again accorded to it, and likely to continue. When first produced at the Adelphi, just ten years ago, the cast included Mr. Henry Neville as Job Armoyd, Miss Neilson as his misguided wife Nelly, Mr. Ashley as the libertine seducer Gilbert Featherstone, Mr. Toole as the London tiger Blinks, Mr. C. J. Smith as the post boy Tops, and Mrs. Alfred Mellon as the kindly and out-spoken Lancashire lass Tiddy Draggleshorpe. At the revival two years ago, at this house, Mrs. Mellon resumed her original part; Miss Lydia Foote succeeded Miss Neilson as Nelly; Mr. S. Emery replaced Mr. Neville as Job Armoyd; and poor George Belmore took and imparted new life to Toole's part of Benjamin Blinks. In the present revival, Mrs. Alfred Mellon and Mr. C. J. Smith are still the Tiddy Draggleshorpe and the Postboy Tops. Mr. S. Emery again displays all the deep feeling and rugged pathos with which he previously invested the part of the deserted husband. Miss Rose Coghlan, whether from some dislike to the part or other cause, is not seen to advantage as the erring and repentant wife Nelly, trying as the ordeal must be to follow such a finished artist and mistress of emotional power as Miss Lydia Foote. Poor George Belmore is but indifferently replaced by Mr. H. Jackson, who wholly overacts the part of the muscle-adoring tiger Benjamin Blinks; and Mr. Revelle is a rather weak representative of the conventional libertine of melodrama, Gilbert Featherstone, for which Mr. W. Terriss was first cast. The drama is preceded by Mr. H. Jackson's arrangement of the farce of *A Day after the Fair*, in which Mr. Jackson and Miss Fannie Leslie give various character impersonations; and is followed by a comic ballet pantomime entitled, *Robert Macaire*, founded on the drama of that name, the incidents of which are closely followed, and illustrated with great comic humour and grotesqueness by the clever Martinetti Company.

FOLLY THEATRE.

MR. TOM TAYLOR's comedietta, *Nine Points of the Law*, was revived here on Monday evening, to give Miss Lydia Thompson an opportunity of showing her versatility as an actress of genteel comedy as well as burlesque. Miss Thompson delineates with great intelligence and nice discrimination the several phases of character, the principal personage of the comedietta, Mrs. Smylie, a charming widow, is called upon to exhibit—first, in defending herself from being ejected from her pretty cottage and farm, to which she is strongly attached, and then in testing the sincerity of different aspirants for her hand—she plays her cards so adroitly and with such skilful finesse that she not only gets her landlord to reinstate her in her cottage and farm, but secures him for a husband, after having proved the worthlessness of her other suitors—Miss Thompson's acting was refined and vivacious throughout, but it was especially artistic and delicious in the scene where she works upon the feelings of the bluff but soft-hearted Yorkshireman, Joseph Ironside, her landlord, with such well simulated grief and broken-hearted sorrow, that it must have been a surprise to most of the audience to see, on her removing her pocket-handkerchief, her face beaming with smiles and suppressed laughter, instead of being bedewed with tears. Equally excellent was her wheedling the lawyer Cunningham to come over to her side, by her pretended encouragement of his new-born and presumptuous suit; and, finally, Miss Thompson showed her comedy ability where she leads the adventurer and fortune hunter, Redmont Rollingsstone, to betray his interested motives. Miss Thompson was ably supported by Mr. Lionel Brough and Mr. Willie Edouin—both of whom appeared to great advantage, the former as the bluff but good-hearted Yorkshireman, Ironside, and the latter as his lawyer Cunningham. Mr. Philip Day successfully represented the rowdy suitor for Mrs. Smylie's hand, and Mr. W. Forrester and Miss Emily Duncan pleasingly represented a pair of young lovers. The burlesque, *Robinson Crusoe*, which has been marvellously worked up since the first night, and which reached its hundredth representation on Monday evening, still continues without any diminution of its attractiveness.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE OF THE "OLYMPIAN ROWING CLUB."

THE "Olympian Rowing Club," consisting of the very numerous staff of young men engaged in the extensive warehouse of the well-known mercantile firm of Munt Brown & Co., of Wood Street, Cheapside, gave their annual dramatic performance at St. George's Hall, on Saturday evening, the two pieces selected for the occasion, Mr. Andrew Halliday's popular two act farcical comedy *Checkmate*, and Mr. Wybert Reeves's drama *Won at Last* were not only very creditably represented, but went with the smoothness, regularity, and completeness of a professional performance. Great care had evidently been bestowed on rehearsals, the dramatis personæ were letter perfect in the parts, so that there were none of those awkward hitches and gaps so generally inseparable from amateur performances, and both pieces seemed to afford the utmost satisfaction to the crowded audience (among whom were the respected heads of the firm), that filled the hall in every part. In the little comedy the only drawbacks to a very careful and gentlemanly impersonation of Sir Everton Toffee, by Mr. Frank Bertie, were first a monotony of voice, and when disguised as his groom, his unchangingly holding the riding-whip horizontally in front of him with both hands, is very awkward and constrained. Mr. J. V. Hale gave full prominence to the vulgarity of Sam Winkle, the groom, when, disguised as his master, he makes love to Martha Bunn, masquerading as her mistress, the heiress. Mr. Hale, however, commendably steered clear of exaggeration, and shared in the applause deservedly bestowed upon Mr. H. N. Harris, who played the part of Henry, the hotel waiter, with genuine humour and comic vivacity. Miss Jenny Armstrong was rather too serious and lachrymose as the heroine, Miss Charlotte Russe, though in the second act in the encounters with the peccant domestics she warmed up a little, greatly to the improvement of the impersonation. Miss Lizzie Dudley was lively and amusing as the maid, Martha Bunn. This young lady also showed ability in the small part of Mary Bounce in the drama *Won at Last*, in which Mr. C. F. Burchell played with quiet force and dignity the part of General Warburton; Mr. G. A. Whiteman was easy and self-possessed as his nephew, Lieut. Francis Warburton, and Mr. A. J. Kestin gave a thoroughly artistic representation of the scoundrel Adolphus Buchanan, whose villainies and persecution of the heroine, Constance Warburton, a part sustained with infinite grace, intelligence and emotional feeling by Mrs. W. H. Goodall, are eventually frustrated through the exertions of the young lady's lover, the somewhat foppish, weak-headed, but sound-hearted Ferdinand

Fitzsmith, who found a clever and very amusing exponent in Mr. W. J. C. Goodall. The strong-minded and imperious Mrs. Fitzgerald Warburton was represented with adequate force by Miss Caroline Harvey. On the whole, a better or more thoroughly excellent amateur dramatic performance has not often been witnessed.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Criterion on Thursday evening last week, and on the following evening their Royal Highnesses accompanied by the royal children, witnessed the performance of the pantomime at Covent Garden. The Prince and Princess attended the St. James's Theatre on last Wednesday evening.

Mr. Charles Mathews will appear at the Opera Comique at Easter.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal will appear in the *Lady of Lyons* and other plays, at the Gaiety matinees of next and two following Saturdays.

Mr. Hollingshead announces a season, to be continued annually, of French plays, at the Gaiety, to commence on Monday, the 21st of May, with a new representation of M. M. Eckmann-Chatrian's last new play, *L'Ami Fritz*, now successfully running at the Comédie Française, in which M. Febvre will resume his original character. Mdlle. Theresa will make her first appearance in England on the 4th of June, as also M. Didier, to be followed in a fortnight by Madame Celine Chaumont, who will be succeeded by Mdlle. Judic.

At the close of the pantomime season at Drury Lane, Miss Harriet Coveney returns to the Criterion Theatre.

A version, by Mr. Lyster, of *Les Danischeffs*, with Mr. Lytton Sothern as Vladimir, has been produced with great success at the Opera House, Melbourne.

A new musical piece, entitled *The Rajah of Mysore* will be produced at the Gaiety on Saturday next.

A new drama by Mr. Wilkie Collins has been accepted at the Olympic.

The report that "The Surrey Gardens" were to be sold for building purposes appears to be unfounded. The present proprietor intends to open them during the ensuing summer with a variety of attractive entertainments.

Mr. Chatterton will have a rare combination for his next pantomime season, having, in addition to the talented Vokes family, with the exception of the sprightly Miss Rosina, who is about to quit Thespis for Hymen, but whose place will be filled by Miss Bella Moore (Mrs. Fred Vokes) secured the services of the Girards and the Martinetti.

Mr. J. G. Taylor will play Mr. J. Clarke's part in the provincial run of *The Great Divorce Case*, which will presently begin under the management of Mr. Radcliffe.

Mr. Hobson has reason to congratulate himself on the success of his pantomime at the New Theatre Royal, Leeds. The success has certainly not been owing to the libretto, which was of the feeblest until the principal actors roused it up, and infused new life into it. Especially notable are the performances of Miss Lennox Grey, who plays Beauty. Miss Grey's voice, always of high quality, has even improved, while her style of singing and acting seems also to have acquired greater perfection than when she amused playgoers at the Alhambra some months ago. We hear that this lady is likely to appear again in London during the season in a new opera-bouffe.

On Wednesday last Mr. Burnand's *Black Eyed Susan* was played at the Royal Aquarium Theatre, by a company in which are included Miss Maggie Brennan, Miss Bonehill, Miss Nelly Harris, Miss Nellie Phillips, Messrs. Dewar, J. Fawn, and Leigh.

THE COMPTON BENEFIT.—The benefit in aid of the testimonial fund to the respected and deservedly popular comedian, Edward Compton, whose long and serious illness has rendered hopeless any prospect of his resuming his profession, takes place on Thursday morning next at Drury Lane Theatre, under the immediate patronage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The event will long be memorable in theatrical annals, not only for the unusual attractiveness of the programme, but for the unprecedentedly aggregate strength of the casts of the several selections, in which not only the principal rôles, but the subordinate characters, down to the mere supernumeraries, will be filled by the leading artists of the day, the whole of the eminent actors and actresses of the metropolis, without a single exception, cheerfully lending their aid on behalf of their poor afflicted brother comedian. The programme opens with the council scene from *Othello*, with Mr. Creswick as the Moor, Mr. Ryder as Iago, and Miss Ada Cavendish as Desdemona. In the first act of *Money* Mr. Edward Compton (son of the beneficaire) will make his first appearance in London, as Evelyn. Mr. B. Webster will sustain his original character of Graves; Mr. Henry Neville will be Lord Glossmore; Mr. Hare, Sir John Vesey; Mr. Kendal, Sir Frederick Blount; Mr. David James, Stout; Mr. William Farren, Sharp; Messrs. Bancroft and Charles Collette appearing as the servants; Mrs. Bancroft will be the Lady Franklin; Miss Ellen Terry, Georgina Vesey; and Miss Madge Robertson (Mrs. Kendal), Clara Douglas. Mr. Jefferson will sustain Mr. Buckstone's part of Golightly in the farce of *Lend me Five Shillings*, supported by Messrs. Howe, Charles Wyndham, John Billington, and Thomas Thorne, and Misses Mary Oliver and Amy Roselle in the other characters. In a scene from Macklin's comedy, *The Man of the World*, Mr. Phelps will appear in his well-known assumption of Sir Pertinax Macsycophant, and Mr. Hermann Vezin as Egerton. This will be followed by the last act of *The Critic*, with a powerful cast, including Mr. Charles Mathews as Puff; Mr. Byron, Dangle; Mr. John Clayton, Sneer; Mr. Arthur Sketchley, Under Prompter; Mr. Buckstone, Lord Burleigh; Mr. G. W. Anson, Governor of Tilbury Fort; Messrs. John Clarke, E. Righton, and E. Terry, respectively as the Earl of Leicester, Sir Walter Raleigh, and Sir Christopher Hatton; Mr. W. J. Hill as the Beefeater, Mr. W. H. Stephens as Master of the Horse, and Mr. Toole as Whiskerandos; Mrs. Hermann Vezin and Mrs. Alfred Mellon will appear as the two nieces; Mrs. Chippendale as Confidante, and Miss Farren as Tiburina. Messrs. Lionel Brough and Mr. W. Edouin lending their aid in the small parts of the two Sentinels. The concluding dramatic item will be Messrs. Sullivan and Gilbert's *Trial by Jury*, in which Mr. George Honey will sustain the late Mr. Sullivan's part of The Judge, supported by Mr. Arthur Cecil as The Usher, and Mdlle. Pauline Rita as the plaintiff. The jury and bridesmaids in this dramatic cantata as well as the guests at the County Ball in the farce of *Lend me Five Shillings*, will be represented by a host of the leading actors and actresses of the metropolis. In addition to the foregoing, Miss Heath will recite in the course of the afternoon "The Charge of the Light Brigade," and Mr. Henry Irving will give his recitation of "The Uncle."

AMATEUR THEATRICALS.—A very successful amateur performance took place at Sir Robert and Lady Pigot's, West Hall, Weybridge, on Monday, the 12th. The piece,—illustrative of North-American Indian life—was written by Mr. Frederick Maude, and was admirably put on the stage. The cast was all that could be desired, and included the Honourable Mrs. George Wrottesley and Lady Pigot, whose talents in the dramatic line are too well-known to require comment. Mr. Maude's fine conception of the character of Oneyda, the Indian Chief, was justly applauded, and the originality of the dresses and scenery gave a most genuine character to the whole performance.—ONE OF THE AUDIENCE.

NEW MUSIC.

CHAPPELL & Co., 50, New Bond Street, publish a "Marche Religieuse" for organ, composed by Gounod, a melodious composition, imbued with characteristic harmonic colouring. The Marche has also been ably arranged for harmonium by E. R. Terry, who has preserved the best features of the original. A "Marche Militaire," by the same composer, is a pianoforte duet which will be found effective though easy, and a separate edition is published as a pianoforte solo, well transcribed by B. Tours. "Reminiscences of England," by Fred Godfrey, is an effective pianoforte arrangement of familiar national airs, and the orchestral parts for a military band are also published. The "Trial by Jury" waltz, by C. D'Albret, is a capital pianoforte arrangement of melodies in Mr. Arthur Sullivan's popular operetta. The "Au revoir" waltz, by Emile Waldteufel, is a brilliant and melodious work, worthy the reputation of its author. "Be strong to hope" is a song written by Adelaide Proctor, composed by G. Fox. The words are truly poetical, and Mr. Fox has set them to an expressive melody, well harmonised in the accompaniment. This song will be prized by contralto and baritone singers. "Lowly born" is a song written and composed by the Hon. Mrs. Norton. The words are worthy of the accomplished authoress, and the music, simple in character, yet by no means commonplace, will recommend "lowly born" to all who are in search of a well-written and effective ballad. "Time and the stream" is a song, written by Mr. X. Hayes, composed by E. Harper. The words are of average merit. The music is effective. "The Evening Bell" is a pianoforte arrangement (solo) of the well-known duet for harp and pianoforte, composed by Mendelssohn a few hours after his departure from the house of Mr. Atwood, at Norwood, where the composer had lingered in spite of the occasional signal given by the lodge-keeper's bell that the carriage was in waiting. The pianoforte arrangement is admirably executed, and this solo will be a welcome addition to the treasures of amateur pianists. Two waltzes by G. Lamothé, "Le message des Fleurs," and "Chants de l'Aube," may be recommended for their musical merits as well as their suitability for dancing purposes. They are illustrated by Messrs. Hanhart in a remarkably effective manner, and the title-page of the "Chants de l'Aube" is worthy to be framed as a work of art. "Les Belles Viennoises" is a pianoforte arrangement of the waltz by Signor Arditi, which obtained great popularity at the Covent Garden Promenade Concerts, and loses little by its reduction from the orchestral score to pianoforte purposes. "Trial by Jury" is a clever pianoforte fantasia on airs from Sullivan's operetta, and Mr. Kuhe has again shown himself to be one of the best arrangers of popular melodies for the use of amateur pianists.

J. B. CRAMER & Co., 201, Regent Street, W. "Oh, speak but the word" is a song, written by W. F. Ellis, composed by Brinley Richards. The words are of average merit, the melody is flowing, and is original, excepting the 5th bar, in which the line "Oh tell me, my fairest" is set to the same phrase as the opening of Frank Mori's song, "Who shall be fairest?" An English version of Goldburg's "Lovely Maid" has been written by F. Shelley, whose over-anxiety to give a literal translation has occasionally injured the effect of an otherwise successful adaptation. The tuneful melody will recommend the song. "Dear Little Flowers" is a song written by L.B.L., composed by R. Stanley. The words are good. As for the music, "Good is not the word!" The melody is commonplace, and some of the harmonies are fearfully and wonderfully made. "Luna, Veil thy Light!" is a serenade written by H. Guy, composed by C. E. Tinney. Mr. Guy deserves praise for his poetical lines, which have been set by Mr. Tinney to a remarkably graceful melody, with a well written accompaniment. A waltz for pianoforte, with cornet obbligato, and entitled "German Love Songs," bears the name of Dr. Hartmann, Trin. Coll., Dublin. As a collection of charming melodies, well adapted to dancing purposes, this waltz may be recommended. The "Folly Galop," by H. De Vaux, is a lively dance tune. "Dolce far Niente" is a pianoforte solo by Signor Campana, who has gracefully treated the expressive motif with which it commences.

JOSEPH WILLIAMS, 24, Berners-street, W. "Moonlight's Magic Hour" is a translation of Massenet's serenade, "Nuit d'Espagne." The English words are poetical, and correspond to the ideas of the original, but they are hopelessly unsuitable to the music. Dr. Carpenter, like many other adaptors who are not musicians as well as poets, appears to be unaware that a ridiculous effect is produced when musical accents are disregarded, as in his lines, which (with the accented words italicised by us) run thus when sung:—

"The stars now gem the deep blue sky"
"It is the hour for love"
"No listening ear"
"My vows to hear at moonlight,"
"Will break in streaks of golden shine—"

&c., &c., &c. Fortunately the French words are given, and most amateurs will be able to enjoy M. Massenet's music as originally conceived. "Melanie" is a ballad, written by J. P. Douglas, composed by the late W. H. Weiss. The words are well written, the melody characteristic and flowing. The G in the third bar of page 6 requires a prefatory accidental. "Dauntless," by the same composer, is a spirited setting of Sir Walter Scott's "Young Lochinvar," and is worthy the attention of tenors and baritones. Cannobie Lea is misprinted Cannobie Sea—a mistake which can speedily be rectified. "The Forest and the Footprints" is a song written by R. M. Craig, composed by T. R. G. Jozé. The words are above the average; the music is more ambitious than successful, but presents many meritorious features. "Brightest roses fade" is a ballad by the composer of "Silver threads among the gold." The words are not merely commonplace, but absurd, and the music is little better. Particles such as it, in, on, of, &c., are placed in the accented parts of bars, and the musical phrases are familiar without being welcome. Mr. Rimmel's pianoforte duet arrangement of Neustedt's "Carillon de Louis XIV." is well executed, and will be acceptable to amateurs. It is well suited to teaching purposes. Mr. Leybach's "Chant du Pâtre" is a brilliant caprice for pianoforte, with a leading melody of pastoral character, and deserves to become popular. Four pianoforte solos by Harold Thomas—"Air Styrien," "Chant de l'Ermite," "Grand Scène de Ballet," and "Valse Élégante"—are excellent specimens of his ability as a writer of effective pianoforte solos. They are melodious, well harmonised, and of only moderate difficulty. Mr. H. Weist Hill's "Son Image" waltzes deserve warm approbation. They are worthy attention as pianoforte solos, and are at the same time well adapted to dancing purposes.

C. JEFFREYS, 67, Berners-street, W. The Angel in the Cloud, written by J. P. Douglas, is an expressive and melodious setting, by M. Watson, of some smoothly written verses. This song, which is the best that Mr. Watson has yet produced, is worthy the attention of contraltos and baritones. "Six original pieces for Harmonium or Organ," by the same composer, are separately published. They comprise a "Village Dance," tuneful and quaint—a "melodie" (which might surely have borne an English title, like the "Village Dance," to which it succeeds) a "Pas Redoublé," (why not "Quick Step"?), a "Berceuse," (why not "Cradle Song"?), a "March," and a "Revery"—we beg pardon—a "Réverie." With the exception of "Pas

Redoublé," which is commonplace, these pieces deserve much praise. They are well adapted to their purpose, and will afford to Harmonium players varied sources of enjoyment; being replete with melody, excellently harmonised, and furnished with useful indications as to the use of stops. "La Rondinella" is a pianoforte caprice by R. De Vilbac, an elegant drawing-room piece; brilliant, yet not too difficult.

J. PARRY COLE & Co. 10, Berners-street, W. "Cupid the Conqueror," written by Arthur Matthison, composed by V. Francesca. With the exception of the line in which a maiden says to Cupid "Thy darts without point as my pearls," this is a capital written song. The melody is flowing, but the effect of the lively words is often injured by the composer's tendency to repetitions which obstruct the progress of the narrative. A vocal waltz, "I'll dream of love to-night," composed by W. F. Taylor, is tuneful, and easy to sing. The words by Mr. J. S. Lyons are well adapted to their purpose. "Oh never call my heart thine own," song, written by W. Guernsey, composed by Tito Rossi, is a sympathetic setting of some incomprehensible lines, adorned with such rhymes as "gone," and "home." The "Withered Violet" is also written by W. Guernsey, who should publish a key to the meanings of his mysterious lines. He strings incongruous ideas together in the most astounding manner. What, for instance has the second line of the following quatrain to do with the three other lines?

"Though false may be the flow'rs of love,
As birds fly from their nest,
A spring time comes, my mother dear,
When wearied hearts find rest."

Mr. Cheshire has been unfortunate in the materials on which he has had to work, but he has succeeded in producing a pathetic and melodious contralto air. "Memory of the Past," by the same composer, is an appropriate setting of some sentimental verses by the Rev. F. K. Harford. "When Her we Love is Gone" is a ballad by the same composer, and he is also the writer of the words. Mr. Cheshire is an accomplished musician, but does not shine as a poet. His verses are full of faulty rhymes and bad grammar, as bad as the ludicrously ungrammatical title of his song. It is to be hoped that Mr. Cheshire really wrote, "When She we Love is Nigh," but it is amazing that the present title of his song should have passed uncorrected through the hands of engraver, printer and publisher. The music deserves better words. Mr. Cheshire appears to more advantage in his "Grand Patriotic Duet on Ancient Ditties," for pianoforte. He has treated a number of stirring national airs with remarkable originality of style, and his fanciful embellishments will tax the resources of accomplished players. Why does he not give us pieces for the harp, in which he is facile princeps? "Dew Pearls," by Boyton Smith, is an elegant pianoforte caprice by an accomplished writer for the instrument. "Constance," a pianoforte waltz by J. Lamote, is melodious and graceful, and his "Valse di Bravoura," (why not Bravura?) arranged as a pianoforte duet, will be acceptable to amateurs. The "Orange Blossoms Waltz," by Zoe, is very pretty, and well arranged. Mr. W. C. Sumner's "Suite de pièces" contains well written specimens of the Minuet, Sarabande, Gigue, and Gavotte. M. Paul Vivian is the composer of a pianoforte duet in B flat. He may have had his reasons for writing it, but we can only regret to see so much good ink and paper wasted. "Festa Napolitana" is the title of a pianoforte serenade by E. P. Casano. This is one of the most charming drawing-room pieces we have seen for a long time past. The leading theme is light and graceful, the andante episode full of sentiment, and the embellishments are brilliant and tasteful. Mr. J. Parry Cole's versatility is attested by his "Ecumenical Grand Processional March" for two pianists, his "Romance" for violin or violoncello, and by no less than seven songs, entitled "Sweet Seventeen," "The Midnight Hour," "The Old Village Church," "Twilight Shades," "Summer and Autumn," "There be Dreams," and "Consolation."

SIMPSON & Co., 33, Argyll-street, W. The "Manx Sailor's Song," written by Miss B. Hardy, is not without a certain rugged pathos. The music, by F. L. Spicer, is overelaborate, and the words are made to do duty too often. The triplet passage, where "the maiden is praying," is out of character with the sentiment. The seventh and eighth bars in the same page (p. 8) are connected by an ugly setting of the word "me," and in other passages of the song sense is sacrificed to sound. Still, it is evident that Mr. Spicer possesses genuine musical instincts, and is likely to be more successful hereafter. The "Adelia Polka," by George Marsden, and his "Jollity" Galop are clever pianoforte arrangements of original dance tunes. "The Mountebank" is a pianoforte arrangement, by L. Almonte, of "Vivien's celebrated song," of which we confess to have hitherto been quite ignorant, but which, so far as we can judge from the pianoforte transcription, appears to be a servile imitation of the general outlines of Mr. Molloy's popular song "The Vagabond." Mr. H. S. Robert's "Laurel Leaves" and "Blue Violet Valse" are tuneful pianoforte solos, well adapted to teaching purposes.

HOWARD & Co., 28, Great Marlborough-street, W., publish a "Musical Valentine," tastefully illustrated, which contains vocal compositions by Pinsuti and other composers, besides some excellent pianoforte solos, and will prove an acceptable present, although its price is absurdly low.

W. G. HALLIFAX, 315, Oxford-street, is the publisher of "Spring," a "characteristic sketch for the pianoforte," composed by Mr. C. E. Stevens. Though simple, it is melodious and tasteful, and will be useful to teachers.

ENOCH AND SONS, 19, Holles-street, W., publish the "Adelaide" waltzes for the pianoforte, composed by H. Klein, who has evidently had the interests of lovers of the dance in view when writing his clearly accentuated melodies.

RIVIERE AND HAWKES, 28, Leicester-square, publish the "Grand Inauguration March," composed for Mr. Chas. Hengler by G. Clements. It is a spirited work, and has been well transcribed for the pianoforte.—"The Fairies' Tears," is a remarkably graceful setting, by M. Hervé, of the verses entitled, "The Story of the Dew-drops," which appeared in our Christmas number fourteen months back. Within the compass of nine notes M. Hervé has constructed an effective though simple melody, enriched by poetical harmonies.—"Sea and Shore," by the same composer, is a powerfully dramatic setting of some lines by Henry Hersee. Although M. Hervé is chiefly known in this country in connection with his opéra-bouffe music, he has won distinction as an organ-player, and has composed some excellent ecclesiastical music. The fruits of his severer studies may be observed in the masterly harmonies and graphic accompaniment of this song. The vocal part is full of variety and melody, and "Sea and Shore" will be a welcome boon to contraltos and baritones in search of a strikingly effective song. We refrain from offering any opinion on the words, which are subjoined.

"SEA AND SHORE."

Sullenly heaved the gloomy sea,
The sun went down with a lurid glare;
The wind, like a soul in misery,
Fitfully moaned through the murky air.
A mariner marked the coming storm,
And handward strained his aching sight;
While the hissing spray dashed over his form,
Erect at the helm—and alone, with night!
And far away, on the rocky shore,
Her tresses streaming wild in the gale,
Mid the pitiless rain, and the tempest-roar,
A weeping woman watched for his sail!

Brightly the sun shines out next morn,
And streaks with gold the billows long.
The southern breeze, o'er the waters borne,
Whispers a pleasant peaceful song.
O treach'rous sea! O mocking wave!
The shore is darkened with despair:
For dead, on the rocks, lies the mariner brave,
Still grasping a tress of raven hair!
And a dark-eyed maiden falls down by his side,
And wails out his name with her latest breath:
Not long shall he wait for his chosen bride;—
She has gone to her love,—through the gates of Death!

CORRESPONDENCE.

[The fact of the insertion of any letter in these columns does not necessarily imply our concurrence in the views of the writers, nor can we hold ourselves responsible for any opinions that may be expressed therein.]

MR. BARNES'S "JOSEPH SURFACE," AND MR. BANCROFT.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS.)

SIR,—In answer to a paragraph in your paper of this date, with reference to a letter I am stated to have written to Mr. Barnes, concerning his performance of "Joseph Surface," at the Gaiety Theatre, will you allow me space in your next issue to say that I have never addressed a word to Mr. Barnes on the subject.—I am, &c.

S. B. BANCROFT.

Saturday, Feb. 17, 1877.

"THE KING'S HIGHWAY."

SIR,—May I ask your permission to transfer from Mr. Weatherly to myself your censure on the two ungrammatical lines in the above song. I regret to say that I alone am responsible for the mistake, having—with Mr. Weatherly's permission, and at the last moment, altered part of the third verse in order to meet, as it seemed to me, an exigency in the music. Apologising for trespassing on your space, I remain, Yours &c.—J. L. MOLLOY.

3, Plowden Buildings, Temple.

AN IRISHMAN'S OPINION OF "THE QUEEN OF CONNAUGHT."

SIR,—No answer appeared to that foolish letter by the author of the *Queen of Connaught* in the *Daily Telegraph*, for the simple reason that it was not published. I am not the only Irishman who deeply resented the libel thrown upon the whole nation by this startlingly original (?) play. The more so, as being somewhat behind the scenes, so to speak, the animus of the affair was easily conceived. It is not for me to arraign the authors, but in the name of English playgoers I ask is one man's method to be run down at a ruinous expense of truth. That a play which is one mass of contradictions can ever be anything more than ephemeral, makes it none the less annoying. We are irritated by this bite of a mosquito though we despise it. Your "Captious Critic" will bear me witness that the only occasions on which the play met with favour at the hands of an English audience were when there was an evident plagiarism from dramas of the *Shaughraun* and *Colleen Bawn* order. With the exception of these bad imitations there was nothing Irish about the play. I saw and heard a lot of Englishmen trying to ape the Irish character. But an indiscriminate use of "Ma Colyeen O'Mad-thawn," and other exclamations, no more makes the Irishman, than a collection of "Ma fois" and "Sacre Bleus" does the Frenchman.

There is hearty cause to feel aggrieved and to say some very bitter things at the expense of these would be exponents of a new national character, but I feel assured that the contempt of all right-minded people will prove sufficient punishment for their presumption. I will just point out to you the absurdity of the moral of the piece ere I say adieu. At the close of the play the hero, addressing the villain, says: "It is such men as you whom we have to thank for the distortion of Irish character," (particulars of which see as per play), or words to that effect. If, then, the vagaries of one or two seducers and assassins are to change the whole character of the English nation, then indeed we stand in great and terrible danger.

Irish gentlemen are in the habit of smoking pipes and making a drawing-room reek with the fumes of whisky toddy, it is to be presumed, and under these circumstances I am sure the gentlemen of the Middle Temple will thank the authors for thus exposing their short-comings, since most of them hail from the Green Isle. In conclusion I beg to thank the authors of the *Queen of Connaught* for their refreshing wit, and remain

AN IRISH GENTLEMAN.

AUTHOR'S ERRATUM.—In the verses printed last week called, "In Lieu of a Valentine," line 2 should have read "I left the travail-burdened ways, and sought."

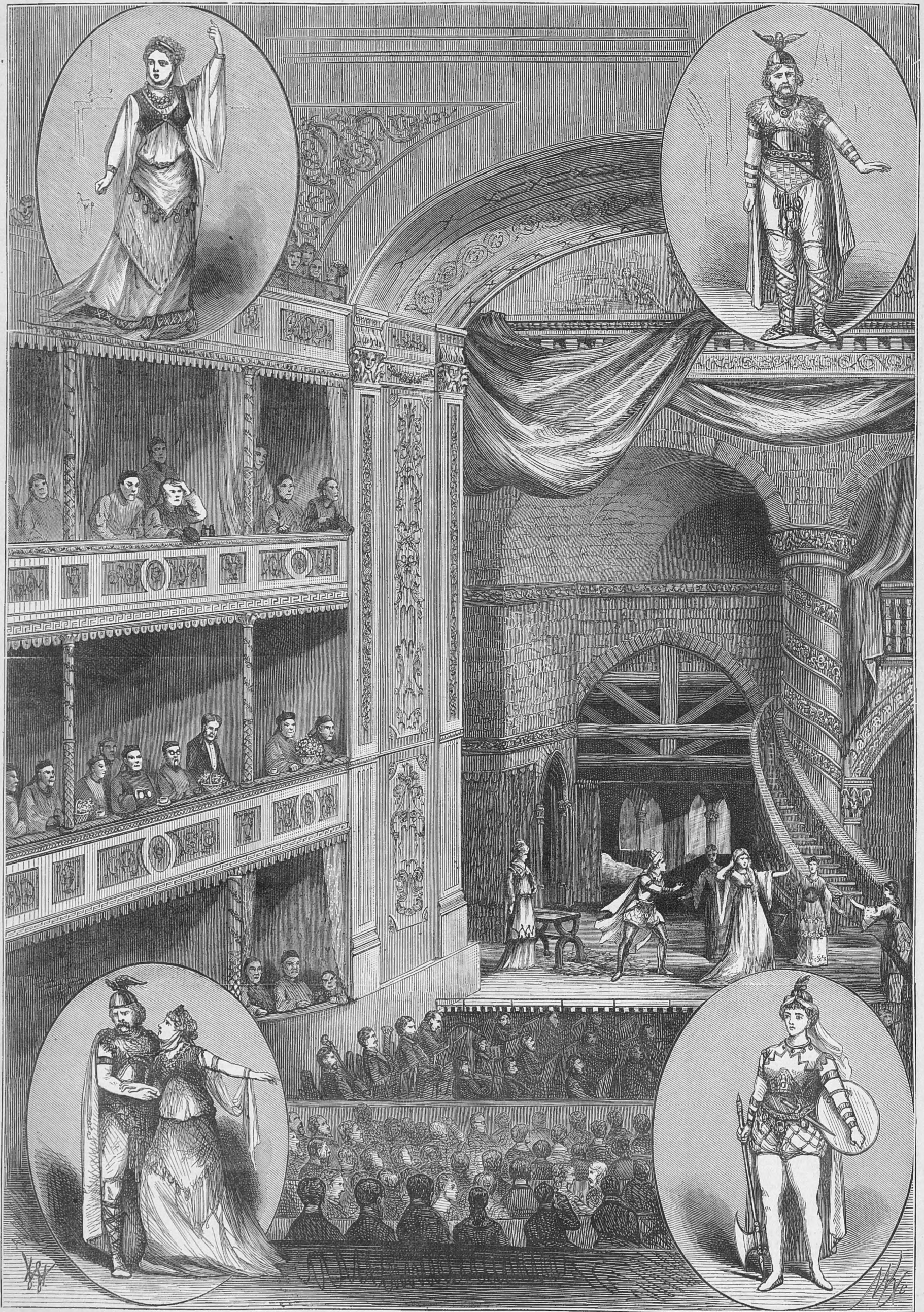
LORD MIDDLETON met with an accident whilst out with his hounds on Monday. The meet was at Thirkleby, and the hounds were in full cry after a fox, when his lordship's horse slipped on some asphalt in front of Mr. Clarkson's farm-house. The rider fell on his head on the asphalt, and was slightly stunned for several minutes. He also bled profusely at the nose, but was able shortly afterwards to ride home to Birdsall, where he was attended by a medical gentleman. No serious result is anticipated.

ON Saturday, a serious hunting accident happened at Eydon, near Banbury, to Mr. Solvin, a gentleman residing at Leamington. The Bicester hounds met at Fenny Compton Wharf, and when in the neighbourhood of Eydon, Mr. Solvin's horse fell in taking a fence. The animal rolled over his rider, breaking his thigh. Colonel Cartwright, of Eydon Hall, kindly placed a carriage at the disposal of the unfortunate gentleman, and he was removed to the Red Lion Hotel, at Banbury, where his injuries were attended to by Mr. Simonds, of Oxford, and Mr. Franey, of Banbury. Mr. Solvin is well known in the hunting field, having hunted the Bicester country for several seasons.

THE horses with which the Mexican failed to accomplish his task of 600 miles in fifty hours last week were sold on Thursday at the Agricultural Hall. Nine of them fetched in the aggregate 201 guineas. Eleven Canadian horses, sold at the same time, fetched 422 guineas. The best prices were 89 guineas, given for a pair of brown mares, and 83 guineas for a matched pair of grey geldings.

THE death of Captain Lockhart Little took place at the Hôtel Clarendon, in Paris, on Saturday, partly in consequence of a cold caught while crossing the Channel. His name will remind our readers of "the Little Captain's" triumphs as a steeplechase rider. His most famous triumphs in the pigskin were achieved upon The Chandler which he rode when in his twenty-eighth year; he won the Liverpool in 1848.

LAMPLOUGH'S PYRETIC SALINE.—HAVE IT IN YOUR HOUSES, AND USE NO OTHER: this alone is the true antidote in Fevers, Eruptive Affections, Sea or Bilious Sickness, having peculiar and exclusive merits. For the protection of the public against fraudulent imitations, have applied for and again obtained a perpetual injunction, with costs, against a defendant. Observe the GENUINE has my NAME and TRADE MARK on a BUFF-COLOURED WRAPPER.—113, Holborn-hill, London.—[ADVT.]



THE CHINESE EMBASSY AT THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.



DEATH IN A DYKE.—A COURSING SKETCH.

MUSIC.

(All Music sent for review will be noticed within one month after its arrival.)

THE length of the review of "New Music," which we publish this week, precludes us from devoting as much space as usual to current musical events, of which, however, there have been few that call for lengthened notice.

The Monday Popular Concert given at St. James's Hall on Monday last, presented an interesting attraction in a new quartet in B flat (Op. 67) for violins, viola, and violoncello, composed by Johannes Brahms, the brightest hope of modern musical Germany. The performers were MM. Joachim, Ries, Straus, and Piatti; and with the exception of some doubtful violin notes in the opening movement, the work received full justice. It includes a "Vivace," which was the reverse of vivacious, an "Andante," devoid of pathetic power, an "Agitato, with Trio," which produced nervous agitation in the breasts of the auditors, and a final movement, "Poco Allegretto, con Variazioni," filled with ingenious but uninteresting effects. The quartet is not likely to enhance the reputation of Brahms; being, as it is, devoid of freshness and musical interest. It is tediously long; and although it reveals the handiwork of a master, it is characterised by the general tendency of Brahms to elaborate his ideas with fatiguing diffuseness. We have to thank the director of these concerts for enabling us to hear the works of distinguished musical contemporaries; but we are forced in this case to express regret that expectation was disappointed. In glorious contrast came Mendelssohn's delightful Trio in D minor (Op. 49), admirably played by MM. Charles Hallé, Joachim, and Piatti. Schubert's posthumous pianoforte sonata in B flat was played by Mr. C. Hallé, the vocal selections were tolerably well sung by Herr Herschel, a baritone débutante. On Monday next, Spohr's Nonetto in F major will be played, and Madame Schumann will make her first appearance this season.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE "Lenten Oratorios" were commenced last Tuesday evening, when a large audience assembled to hear a performance of Haydn's *Creation*, sung by the Crystal Palace choir, assisted by Miss Robertson, Mr. Barton McGuckin, and Signor Federici. The organ was excellently played by Mr. Willing, who gave to the vocalists the instrumental "cues" which are usually granted—more or less in tune—by the violoncello and contra-basso, the fine band did justice to the picturesque orchestration, and Mr. Manns conducted ably as usual. On Tuesday, March 6, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* will be performed, and on Tuesday, March 20, Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, and Mozart's 12th Mass.

THE ALBERT HALL CHORAL SOCIETY on Monday last gave a fine performance of Verdi's *Requiem*, with Mmes. Sherrington and Williams, MM. Lloyd and Foli as principal vocalists, Dr. Stainer organist, and Mr. Barnby conductor. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Christian were present.

THE LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS at St. James's Hall were resumed on Wednesday last, when a number of eminent artists executed a variety of popular songs, to the delight of a crowded audience.

MESSRS. CARRODUS AND HOWELL gave their second chamber concert on Tuesday last, at the Langham Hall, which was well filled. The concert-givers were assisted by MM. Walter Bache, Val Nicholson, and Doyle in the instrumental music, and by Miss Butterworth as vocalist. A well chosen programme was executed in a manner which left room for nothing but praise, and MM. Carrodus and Howell further vindicated the claims of native artists to compete with those of any other country. The next concert will be given on Tuesday, March 6.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY's first concert was given at St. James's Hall, on Thursday last, too late for notice this week.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, on Friday last, gave a selection from the works of Handel and Mozart, to which we shall direct attention next week.

At the ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC a "Students' Concert" will be given this evening, and a new cantata for female voices, composed by Mr. Henry Smart, and entitled, *THE FISHER-MAIDENS*, will be performed for the first time in public.

THE LEEDS MUSICAL FESTIVAL will be held on Wednesday next, and the two following days. Mrs. Patey, Miss A. Williams, MM. Sims Reeves, Shakspeare, and Foli, and other vocalists will assist, and Mr. Carrodus will lead the orchestra. Beethoven's No. 2 Symphony, Sterndale Bennett's *Naiades* overture, and F minor pianoforte concerto, and the Intermezzo from Duvivier's *Deborah* are among the instrumental works to be performed, and the conductor will be Mr. Frederic Archer, the popular organist, who will play the pianoforte solo part in Sterndale Bennett's concerto.

At the LONDON INSTITUTION yesterday week a valuable and interesting lecture on "English Glee Writers" was given by W. A. Barrett, Esq., Mus. Bac., Oxon, assisted by a select choir, who performed in admirable style a well-chosen list of glees by our best composers. Mr. Barratt enlivened the instructive details of his lecture by his witty and caustic remarks, and was warmly applauded by the large audience.

MR. WALTER BACHE will on Tuesday next give his thirteenth annual concert at St. James's Hall. The programme will chiefly consist of compositions by Liszt, and the orchestra will number no less than 90 performers.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY will give an important and attractive concert on Thursday, March 8th. We were the first to announce the particulars of this concert, and need only remind our readers that it will be given in honour of the celebrated violinist Herr Joachim, who will on the same day receive, in the Senate House, the degree of Doctor of Music. A new overture from his pen will be produced, and a new Symphony (in C minor), composed by Brahms expressly for this interesting occasion, will be heard for the first time in England. Beethoven's (only) violin concerto will be played by Joachim, and English art will be worthily represented by Sterndale Bennett's "Wood Nymph's" overture. The band of nearly 60 performers, selected from the best London orchestras, will be led by Mr. Alfred Burnet, and the chorus, 150 strong, will be that of the C. U. M. Society. The indefatigable secretary, John Cox, Esq., has arranged for a Special Train to leave Cambridge immediately after the concert, reaching King's Cross at twelve o'clock. The proceeds of the concert will be given to Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Mr. Frank Foote (Francesco Franceschi) is now singing with great success at La Scala in Milan, as *primo basso assoluto*.

In connection with Mr. Kuhe's Musical Festival, given in the Dome, at Brighton, Haydn's *Creation* was produced on Saturday, the artistic rendering of the fine oratorio being much appreciated by the audience. The vocalists were Madame Lemmens-Sherington, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Signor Foli, and the choruses were given by the Brighton Sacred Harmonic Society.

Madame Edna Hall, the well-known American vocalist, proposes to send a picture to the Academy, which is said to be a very meritorious work.

On Tuesday, the Baroness Burdett Coutts gave a concert at her residence, Stratton-street, Piccadilly. The following artists took part in the entertainment:—First violin, Mr. Carrodus; second violin, Mr. V. Nicholson; alto, Mr. C. Doyle; violon-

cello, Mr. F. Howell; Mr. Wadmore, Madame Patey, and Mr. E. Howell; Mr. H. Thomas presided at the pianoforte. A distinguished company (about 300) responded to her ladyship's invitations.

A COLLECTION of Chopin's letters (about three hundred) are to be published by Ries, at Dresden. It is well known that this illustrious pianist was not lavish with his letters, and, therefore, those collected are, from their rarity, of great value. A certain number in the collection are addressed to Chopin by his friends. The letters have been collected by the composer's sister, and it is from her that Mr. Ries obtained them. They will appear in German, but it is hoped they may, in time, be translated into other languages.

In celebration of the sixteenth anniversary of the day on which Dr. Leopold von Ranke, the well-known German historian, obtained his doctor's degree, there was a grand banquet given on Wednesday. A letter was read from the Emperor William addressed to Dr. von Ranke on the 6th of January, to express his thanks for having sent him a copy of "The Memoirs of Hardenberg." An autograph letter from the Empress to Dr. von Ranke, which accompanied the gift of a portrait of the Emperor, was also read.

Miss Madelena Cronin, a talented artist of deservedly rising repute, announces two Pianoforte Recitals, at the New Concert Rooms, Royal Academy of Music, Tenterden-street, Hanover-square, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, the 13th of March and April 26.

DANIEL FRANCOIS—ESPRIT AUBER.

AUBER, the great musical composer, whose portrait, with a sketch of his tomb appears on another page, died on the 13th of May, 1871. He was born in Normandy on the 29th of January, 1784, at Caen, where his father was in business as a bookseller. Having no taste for business, and displaying a great love of drawing and painting, his father resolved to gratify his passion, and cultivate his artistic tendencies in the direction of music. His first opera, *Le Séjour Militaire*, was produced in 1813, and this was followed in 1819 by his second important work *Le Testament et les Billets-Doux*. Neither achieved success. But in 1821 the productions *La Bergère Châteline* and *Emma* were far more favourably received, and his subsequent productions *Leicester* (1822), *La Nièce* (1823), *Le Concert à la Cour* and *Léocadie* in 1824, followed in 1826 by *Le Maçon* and *Fiorella* placed upon a sure foundation the fame which culminated in *La Muette de Portici*. He produced *La Fiancée* in 1829, and in 1830 *Fra Diavolo*. Auber afterwards produced many popular operas, the names of which will be fresh in the memories of most of our readers. In 1847 he was created a Commander in the Legion of Honour, and at his death, at the ripe age of 87, he was universally acknowledged as one of the few really great musical geniuses of the age.

BIRD SHOWS.

THE fourteenth annual exhibition of canaries and British and foreign cage birds at the Crystal Palace was opened on Saturday last, and is believed to be the largest ever held in this country, the entries being six hundred in excess of that held at the same place last year, which then stood immensely superior to all its predecessors. The number of prize takers is over three hundred, and the money prizes amount to about £150. The birds are displayed in a large tent 290ft. long, which has been temporarily erected in the north nave, and under the superintendence of the Palace company's naturalist (Mr. Wilson) the structure is kept agreeably warmed, and the birds in every respect well cared for. The catalogues contain over 1,900 entries of birds from all parts of the world (divided into 90 classes), there being 600 more entries than in the show of last year. Considerably more than half the birds exhibited are canaries or canary-mules, these being apportioned into 47 classes. In the space allotted to British birds, which this year are unusually well represented, there is also to be found almost every variety of cage birds, such as finches, linnets, larks, nightingales, and thrushes. In the foreign classes are to be seen parrots and parakeets (many of them certified to be adepts in conversation and whistling), pairs of the pretty little Australian love-birds, Java sparrows, and numerous other specimens. Dr. Carl Russ (a well-known German naturalist) has consigned from Berlin a large collection of foreign birds, many of which are extremely rare and curious, while another noteworthy collection is that of an amateur, who has sent a choice assortment of foreign finches, starlings, and parrots, which he does not wish to be included in the general competition for prizes. In addition to the above there are classes provided and prizes offered for the best description of cages and for the most appropriate food for cage-birds, and a further feature of the exhibition will be a collection of books bearing upon the habits and management of the pets themselves. The judges, on Friday, for awarding the prizes were Messrs. Harrison Weir, J. Jenner Weir, Moore, G. J. Barnesby, A. Willmore, Calvert, and R. L. Wallace.

The Westminster Aquarium's first Poultry and Pigeon Show was opened for private view on Tuesday last. The upper and best lighted portion of the building has been appropriated to the birds, and they are very comfortably lodged. Of the poultry there are 853 entries, including Dorkings, coloured and silver grey, blue and white, fifty-eight pens, and all eliciting high encomiums from the judges. Upon some of these favourite fowls the owners have fixed £100 as the minimum price, and not one is obtainable at less £10 or £5. Of this class the most noticeable feature is rather a general excellence than the presence of any individual paragon. The Cochins occupy seventy light wire cages, giving plenty of light, air, and opportunity for inspection, and seem to be of high quality. There are plenty of every other variety of domestic fowl, including the Hamburgs and the Spanish. The "silks," valuable for nursing young partridges and pheasants, are well represented; as also the graceful little bantams, one pair of which is quite a curiosity, if only for their diminutive size. A specialty of the show is the superiority of the game fowls, amongst which Mr. Mathews's cock takes the cup; this bird is a black-red of the Derby breed. Of the pigeons there are 2,000 entries, and their collective value is said to be £15,000.

MR. P. H. B. SALISBURY, a lieutenant in the Cheshire militia has received from the Serbian War Minister, by order of Prince Milan, the gold Cross of Takooa, and the gold medal for distinguished bravery in the field. It will be remembered that Mr. Salisbury served as a volunteer on the staff, and acted as aide-de-camp to General Dochteroff during a considerable part of the late campaign.

It appears that we were misinformed with regard to the very clever little child clown's accident in the Adelphi pantomime. It occurred while at play, and not in the theatre, and last Saturday he resumed his place on the stage completely recovered.

LONDON ATHLETIC CLUB.—The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayress have kindly consented to open the new grounds of this club at Stamford Bridge, Fulham, on the 28th of April next.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.—370 in and out patients were under treatment during the week ending February 17.

VISIT OF THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.

ON Friday, the 16th inst., the Chinese ambassador and the whole of the *personnel* of the embassy, attended by several servants (about twenty-four persons in all) visited the Queen's Theatre in order to witness the new opera, *Biorn*. Some of the attachés and the chief interpreter had already paid one visit on the preceding Friday, and had reported very favourably of the entertainment. The spectacle of so many persons in the rich and picturesque costumes of the Celestial Empire was one so new to English playgoers, that the careful and accurate sketch of the scene taken by our artist on the spot cannot fail to interest our readers.

It appears that the Embassy consists of a first and second minister, a chief secretary, the English secretary, Dr. Macartney (who speaks Chinese with wonderful facility), six under-secretaries, or attachés, and two interpreters. The latter speak English with singular idiomatic correctness, but their accent resembles somewhat that of Americans, a fact which may be accounted for by the intimate relations existing between the Chinese Empire and the Western States of America, or by any other theory philologists may choose to invent.

In order to accommodate so large a party, three of the boxes on the grand tier had been converted into one, while four other boxes were occupied by the suite. During the intervals between the acts the distinguished visitors partook of tea in their box, which had been prepared for them in some large old Wedgewood teapots, provided by the manager, from tea-leaves specially brought by the servants of the Embassy. These leaves were of the choicest kind of tea, and the decoction made from them (which the Chinese drink without milk, sugar, or any other ingredient), is of the most delicate fragrance, and of the most delicious flavour. It was very amusing to notice the interest with which the various incidents of the opera were watched by those of the party to whom English is a sealed language, as well as by the interpreters, who, together with Dr. Macartney, were called upon for constant explanations. With the scenic effects especially they were much delighted. The end of the second act, in which the walls of the castle are shattered by a thunderbolt, eliciting from all characteristic expressions of approval.

Our picture represents the last tableau of the third act, or the sleep-walking scene, in which the figures of Rollo (Miss Cora Stuart) and of Elfrida (Mrs. Fitzinman Marshall) will be easily recognised. After this act the chief interpreter, Fung-Yee, accompanied by two of the attachés presented Mrs. Marshall (under whose management the opera was produced) with a magnificent bouquet on the part of the ambassador, expressing, in the most courteous manner, the pleasure which the entertainment had given to their excellencies and all their suite. In the four oval spaces at the corners are sketches of Mr. Howard in the principal male part, Mrs. Marshall and Miss Stuart.

THE WATERLOO COURSING MEETING.

THE great event of the coursing year was inaugurated under most favourable circumstances on Wednesday, when it was witnessed by upwards of twenty thousand spectators gathered from all the quarters of the three kingdoms, under a cloudless sky.

FIRST ROUND.	
Coomassie beat Caesar	Bridgroom beat High Gillespie
Master Sam beat Barabbas	Conjux beat Milesian
Mariner beat British Queen	Braw Lass beat Hornpipe
Aunt Fleda beat Hawkseye (1)	Bother beat Kenneth
Birkdale beat Cigarette	Britannia beat Munden
Haddo beat Sculptor	Fitz-Roland beat Sir Magnus
Conster beat Picnic	Master Banrigh beat Manager
Handy M'Grath beat Sour Grapes	Poacher beat Vicar of Bray
Minalto beat Ben Loyal	Kilkenny beat Inspector
Flageolet beat Banker	Bombard beat Lancer's Fancy
Coupland Lass beat Fairy Queen	Gallant Foe beat Myosotis
Edict beat Sweetlips	Scrag beat Thankful
Controversy beat Rondeletia	Queen Sybil beat Huron (1)
Busy Bee beat Dark Rustic	Nimble beat Lantern
Hematite beat Darius	Mealsman beat The Squatter
Serapis beat Change	Beardwood beat Bit of Shamrock
SECOND ROUND.	
Coomassie beat Master Sam	Conjux beat Bridgroom
Aunt Fleda, a bye, Mariner drawn	Braw Lass beat Bother
amiss	Britannia beat Fitz-Roland
Haddo beat Birkdale	Master Banrigh beat Poacher
Conster Beat Handy M'Grath	Kilkenny beat Bombard
Flageolet beat Minalto	Gallant Foe beat Scrag
Edict beat Coupland Lass	Queen Sybil beat Nimble
Busy Bee beat Controversy	Beardwood beat Mealsman
Serapis beat Hematite	

THIRD ROUND.
Coomassie beat Aunt Fleda.
Betting: 100 to 30 on Coomassie, which raced away two lengths in front of Aunt Fleda for first and second turns, and always going smarter, had won well when she made a brilliant kill.

Conster beat Haddo.
The last-named led four lengths for first turn, but getting thrown out at a ditch, Conster was left with a commanding lead, and when Haddo again got placed, and a few exchanges resulted before Conster again drew past and killed, gaining a very clever verdict.

Edict beat Flageolet.
The last-named was a lot faster than Edict, who, however, gained the verdict by being a little the cleverer.

Serapis beat Busy Bee (1)
After an undecided, Serapis, in a beautiful trial, well beat Busy Bee by being much cleverer.

Braw Lass beat Conjux (1).
Braw Lass and Conjux ran a short undecided, in which Braw Lass showed pace, and when again slipped Mr. Briggs's bitch proved too fast for her opponent.

Master Banrigh beat Britannia.
In a nice trial Master Banrigh was always going a lot too fast for Britannia, and when the latter killed, she was well beaten.

Kilkenny beat Gallant Foe.
The last-named, after gaining the run up, went wide, and Kilkenny, getting nicely placed, put in some smart work and won a short trial.

Beardwood beat Queen Sybil.
After a tremendous struggle for the lead, Beardwood just obtained it, and in a give and take course won, but with not much to spare.

SALE OF BLOOD STOCK.

ON Monday Messrs. Tattersall sold the following lots:—	
Without Reserve, the Property of a Gentleman.	Gs.
Surinam, br h (foaled 1870) (winner of the Middle Park Plate), by Macaroni—Curacao by The Cure	35
Relic, b f, 3 yrs, by Rosicrucian—Pandora by Newminster	
Mr. Reeves	105
B f, 2 yrs, by Typhoeus—Eltham Beauty by Kingston	Mr. Patterson
B f, 2 yrs, by Siderolite—Tinted Venus by Macaroni	25
To Dissolve a Partnership.	
Element, b c, 3 yrs, by Lord Clifden—Light by The Prime Minister	39
Without Reserve (excepting Tomahawk), the Property of Sir W. Throckmorton, Bart.	
Gazza Ladra by Voltigeur—Nina by Coltherstone; served May 23	
Mr. Silcocks	30
Bessie Bell by Touchstone—Marion by St. Martin; served March 25	
Mr. Christophers	30
Haidee by Bucaneer—Midia (Hurricane's dam) by Scutari; served May 24	
Mr. Gietton	240
Columbia by Woolwich—Prairie Hen by Stockwell; served April 29	
Mr. Burton	20
Duvernay by Beadsman—Cachuca by Voltigeur; served April 17	
Lord Bradford	200
Frank (1870), b h, by Trumpeter—Nathalie by Voltigeur	
Mr. Stephenson	20
The Traveller, b h, by Lambton—Raund's dam	Mr. Winter
Botheration (1868) by Cambuscan—Troublesome by Hobbie Noble	60
Mr. Christopher	45

SUFFERERS FROM ASTHMA, CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, COUGHS, THROAT AFFECTIONS, SLEEPLESS NIGHTS, or Hysterical or Nervous, or Rheumatic Complaints, should never be without DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS. They are an unailing remedy, as thousands of cures prove. Price 1s. 6d. of all Druggists.—[ADVT.]

CRICKET, AQUATICS, AND ATHLETICS.

SUCCESS seems to follow the English Eleven since their defeat in New South Wales, as from the latest "information received" they proved too much for a twenty-two of Nelson, New Zealand, on the 17th and following days of the present month, according to a telegram of Reuter's Agency. The bowling of the Eleven is stated to have been "dead on the wicket" and in consequence the colonials could make but little stand against it, and our Boys won by 163 runs. Further details are not yet forthcoming.

At Kennington Oval, on Saturday last, the first of the fourth ties for the Association Challenge Cup at football, was played between Cambridge University and the Royal Engineers. The latter were unfortunately deprived of the services of one of their best men, Lieutenant Rawson, and were ultimately after a very closely contested game beaten by one goal to love. At the outset the Engineers had rather the best of the struggle, but thanks to the really fine play of the Cambridge backs, Bury, Jarrett and Hammond (goal), being especially conspicuous, at half time no score had been obtained, although on more than one occasion their fortress had been very seriously threatened by the continued attacks of their opponents. When ends were changed, however, the Cantabs with the wind in their favour in turn penned their adversaries, and from a corner by Bury, Hargreaves managed to guide the ball through the posts of the Sapper's goal. Apparently urged on to retrieve their loss, the Engineers played up with great determination for the remainder of the time, but although the Cambridge lines were frequently in danger, no further score resulted, and the match ended in favour of the University, as stated above. On Saturday, Oxford play their tie against Upton Park, which will terminate the fourth round. The fifth tie takes place on March 10, and the final on March 17. Judging from previous performances the cup seems likely to fall to the lot of Oxford. For the Inter-Hospital Challenge Cup under Rugby Rules, St. Bartholomew's beat St. Mary's at Kennington Oval on Wednesday last by a goal and three ties to nothing, and on Thursday, at the same place, Guy's met St. George's, the former being the winners of the Cup in '75, and the latter in '76. The meeting of two such crack teams naturally attracted a large number of spectators, but all throughout, the contest was of a most one-sided character, as St. George's did not succeed in scoring a single point, while Guy's made two goals, two ties, and eight touches down. On Monday at the same locale, Charing-Cross antagonised Middlesex Hospital, and the former obtained a very easy victory, scoring a goal, two ties, a touch in goal, and several touches down to nil. On Saturday Cambridge University had no difficulty in disposing of the pretensions of the Marlborough Nomads, under Rugby rules, on Parker's Piece, winning by five goals to nothing; while at Oxford Richmond lowered the colours of the University by a goal and several touches-down to a disputed goal and one touch-down. On Monday, at Belfast, Scotland beat Ireland in a most decisive manner by six goals and tries to nothing, the play of the winners contrasting in a most marked manner to that of the losers, who were by far the lighter team. Among other items of football news I notice that "the Marquis of Lorne, the President of the Scottish Association, has signified his intention of witnessing the international match between England and Scotland at Kennington Oval on Saturday, March 3." It is not stated whether the Princess Louise will accompany his lordship, but I trow not.

A sad accident marred what promised to prove an exciting bicycle race, at Wolverhampton, on Monday. R. Wilkinson, of South Pontop, and W. Phillips, of Wolverhampton, were matched to ride a mile for £50, Phillips conceding his opponent thirty yards start. After a slight delay with the preliminary arrangements, the pistol was fired as a signal for the competitors to start, but almost before the men were under weigh, the handle of Phillips's machine snapped, and the bicyclist visited mother earth with great violence, and the broken handle penetrated his left thigh, inflicting a wound over an inch deep and close to the femoral artery. Wilkinson, of course, rode over the course, but the stakes were left in the hands of the stakeholder, the winner expressing his willingness to run Phillips again on the same terms within reasonable time. An accident like this is, of course, to be deeply regretted, but no one can have anything but praise for such highly sportsmanlike conduct as that of Wilkinson.

On Tuesday evening Joseph Bennett and T. Taylor played their return match at billiards on a championship table for £100 a side, in the Banqueting hall of the Gaiety Restaurant, Strand. It will be fresh in the memory of those who read "Exon's" notes that early in the present month they met at the same place, and after one postponement, Taylor won by 27 points. On the present occasion the younger player again proved the conqueror, but this time by 21 points only. I cannot quite agree with some accounts which have appeared with regard to the match, viz: that Bennett had most of the luck. It certainly seemed to me that more than once fortune was dead against him, especially when in attempting a double baulk, as he almost invariably "slipped up" and left either his own ball or the red playable. Slightly travestying Burns, I may say, "Oh wad some power the giftie gie un to see the game as others see un." To my mind, I never saw Bennett play a much better game; his delicacy of touch and thorough knowledge of strength being as noteworthy as ever, while some of the twist cannons and "draws back" were simply marvellous. At the same time I have nothing to say in disparagement of Taylor's manipulation; but let the "devil have his due," or speaking classically, *jus suum cuique*. A grand handicap on the American principle, promoted by Messrs. Burroughes and Watts, of Soho-square, who give £100 to be played for, will take place at the Gaiety Restaurant, on Feb. 27, and will continue throughout the week. The following players are announced as participants therein, Cook, Stanley, Taylor, J. Bennett, F. Bennett, Timbrell, Kilkenny, and Shorter. Not knowing the terms on which the various competitors will meet, I cannot attempt to "spot" the winner. N.B. To "spot" is a term at billiards, not unconventional English.

Although there has been but little doing in London with regard to athletics, the sports at the Universities have been in full swing, and the metropolitan talent might have run down to either Oxford or Cambridge had they thought fit to participate in the open events at the various college meetings, but with the exception of J. Gibb, of the London Athletic Club, no one seems to have done so, and once more the term "stranger" as applied to these events is almost a misnomer. Taking up the narrative from where I left off last week, the first meeting which calls for any notice is that of Queen's College, Oxford. The open race was a half-mile handicap, which fell to E. B. Escott, of Balliol, who, thanks to the handicapper, had the lengthy start of 60 yards, and reached the winning post in 1m 58s. The Hon. A. Pelham (Trinity, Cambridge) was entered for this contest, but, to the disappointment of many, he did not start, and F. Bullock-Webster (40 yards) in his absence was virtual scratch man, but could get no nearer than third. The closed events do not require much remark, the only unusual feature being a walking race, which is certainly a novelty at a University meeting. Keble College Sports took place on Monday and Tuesday, with the exception of the Strangers' race, which was decided at the Magdalen College meeting on Thursday, but at the time of writing I am unable to say who was the winner. The best performance in those contests which were decided was that of M. F. Rimington, who cleared

5ft 2½ in the high jump, as well as winning the hurdle race with great ease, but in rather slow time. At Cambridge since my last the chief item is the well-earned victory of J. Gibb (L.A.C.) in the mile strangers' handicap at the Trinity Hall sports on Saturday. For this contest upwards of twenty faced the starter, Gibb and W. Cunliffe, of Trinity, being scratch men. The race is easily described, as the Londoner at once quitted his companion on the mark, and overtaking his men one by one assumed the lead in the last lap and eventually won, without much trouble, by ten yards, in the good time of 4min. 39.3-sec.

The only item of metropolitan gossip is that the members of our leading athletic club, the London, hope to be in their new quarters at Stamford Bridge, Fulham, on April 28, upon which date the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress have kindly consented to perform the inaugural ceremony, whatever that may mean—champagne, I suppose. The following dates have already been arranged for their meetings during the first half of the year 1877:—April 28, May 12, May 26 (England v. Ireland), May 28, June 23 and 25. A swimming meeting in the Thames has also been fixed for Saturday, July 28, and there will likewise be handicaps for members only in May and June.

At length the two university crews appear to be definitely determined upon, and it is high time they were so, inasmuch as little more than a calendar month has to elapse before the great contest takes place. From Oxford I am told by a reliable eye witness that the men are well together, but they all evince a tendency to get short. The policy of introducing Boustead into the boat has met with considerable amount of criticism in some quarters, and many critics go so far as to question the expediency of the ex-president, Stayner, retaining his place in the crew, but I am strongly of the opinion that the dark blue coach, Mr. Sherwood, is, as from his experience he ought to be, the best judge as to whether any one individual is suitable or not. As might be expected, the boat at present is very much down by the head, but this defect will doubtless disappear when some of the heavier men work off a little more superfluous flesh. The Cambridge coach, Mr. John Close, has been submitting his lot to some very severe work of late, which has had the desired effect of considerably decreasing the weights of several of his charges, as well as their short-comings, but there is still a great disposition among them all to feather under water, and thus to miss the finish of the stroke. I am luckily able to give the weights of the Cambridge crew when they last went to scale; they are as follows:—B. G. Hoskyns (bow), 10st 13lbs; 2, T. W. Lewis, 11st 12lbs; 3, J. C. Fenn, 11st 8½lbs; 4, W. B. Close, 11st 13lbs; 5, L. G. Pike, 12st 12lbs; 6, C. Gurdon, 13st 5lbs; 7, T. E. 13st 3½lbs; C. D. Shafto (stroke), 12st 4½lbs; G. L. Davis (cox.), 7st 8lbs. In case of accident, Holmes and Allen are kept as reserves. EXON.

PRINCIPAL RACES PAST.

CROYDON FEBRUARY STEEPLECHASES AND HURDLE RACES.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13.

HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE PLATE of 70 sovs; 2 miles.
Mr. J. Percival's b h Manton, by Brocket—Miss Napier, 6 yrs, 11st 2lb
Gregory 1
Mr. Vane's b h Marlow, aged, 10st 10lbMr. Crawshaw 2
Mr. E. Woodland's ch g Sandy, aged, 10st 7lbJ. Smith 3
Also ran: Ludonais, 6 yrs, 10st 10lb; Bellissima, aged, 10st 9lb; Purity, aged, 10st 4lb.

Betting: 2 to 1 agst Marlow, 3 to 1 agst Manton, 4 to 1 agst Ludonais, 6 to 1 agst Sandy, and 8 to 1 agst Bellissima. Won cleverly by half a length; a bad third. Ludonais was fourth. Bellissima refused the first obstacle, and Purity did not pass the post.

MAIDEN HURDLE RACE of 100 sovs, added to 5 sovs each. About one mile and a half, over six flights of hurdles.
Mr. T. V. Morgan's br g Gilestone, by The Earl or The Palmer—Scarf, 4 yrs, 11st 3lbR. P. Anson 1
Mr. E. W. Taylor's ch c Red Huntsman, 4 yrs, 11st 3lbOrbell 2
Mr. R. Thirlwell's b f Florden, 4 yrs, 11st 3lbR. Marsh 3
Also ran: Swallow, 4 yrs, 10st 7lb 10oz; Lalage, 4 yrs, 10st 7lb 10oz.
Betting: 6 to 4 on Gilestone, 5 to 1 agst Red Huntsman, and 6 to 1 agst Lalage. Won by a head; a bad third. Swallow was fourth. The winner was not sold.

STEEPLECHASE SWEEPSTAKES of 5 sovs each, with 30 added. Two miles and a half.

Mr. H. Hobson's b h Peter Simple, by Plutus—All Black, aged, 12st 10lbR. P. Anson 1
Mr. F. Seal's b g Moonlight, aged, 12st 10lbLawrence 2
Mr. Cartwright's bl g Edward, aged, 12st 10lbMr. Barnes 3
Mr. A. Poole's Dunois, aged, 12st 10lbCassidy 0
Betting: 2 to 1 on Peter Simple. Won in a canter by ten lengths; a bad third. There was no advance on the selling price of the winner.

THE SPRING HANDICAP HURDLE RACE of 15 sovs each, 5 ft, with 200 added; second saved stake. One mile and a half, over six flights. 50 subs, 25 of whom paid 3 sovs each.

Sir J. D. Astley's b f Bridget, by Hermit—Bertha, 4 yrs, 11st 7lb
Mr. Crawshaw 1
Mr. Vane's b h Melrose, 5 yrs, 11st 12lbR. Marsh 2
Mr. Fitzroy's b g Birbeck, 6 yrs, 11st 12lbJ. Jones 3
Also ran: Semstress, 6 yrs, 11st 7lb; Duplex, 5 yrs, 11st 5lb; Rufina, aged, 11st 5lb; Pluton, 4 yrs, 11st 5lb; Regenerateur, 6 yrs, 11st 5lb; Helsthorpe, 6 yrs, 11st 3lb; Princess Bon-Bon, 4 yrs, 10st 12lb; Dolus, 4 yrs, 10st 12lb; Debonnaire, 4 yrs, 10st 12lb; Halifax, 5 yrs, 11st 10lb; Marvellous, aged, 11st 5lb.

Betting: 4 to 1 agst Dolus, 6 to 1 agst Melrose, 10 to 15 agst Bridget, 7 to 1 agst Debonnaire, 8 to 1 agst Rufina, 9 to 1 agst Regenerateur, 10 to 1 agst Pluton, and 20 to 1 agst Duplex and Marvellous. Won easily by three lengths; six between second and third. Debonnaire was fourth, Halifax fifth, Semstress sixth, Helsthorpe seventh, Rufina eighth, and Duplex next. Mr. W. H. Johnstone received a severe shaking through Princess Bon-Bon falling at the first obstacle.

SELLING HURDLE RACE of 5 sovs each, with 30 added. One mile and a half, over six flights. 8 subs.

Mr. J. Percival's b h Rougemont, by Lord Byron—Kouge Rose, 5 yrs, 11st 3lb 10ozGregory 1
Mr. Ellerton's ch m Susannah (late Microscope), 5 yrs, 11st 3lb 10ozR. P. Anson 2

Lord M. Beresford's br h Inchcape, 5 yrs, 11st 3lb 10ozOwner 3
Also ran: Elf, 4 yrs, 10st 7lb 10oz; Engineer, aged, 11st 10lb 10oz; Pick-Me-Up, 6 yrs, 11st 10lb 10oz; Peggy, aged, 11st 10lb 10oz; Royston, 6 yrs, 11st 10lb 10oz.

Betting: 11 to 10 agst Susannah, 5 to 1 agst Inchcape, and 6 to 1 agst Rougemont. Won by a head; two lengths between second and third; the remainder pulled up. The winner was bought in for 155gs.

HUNTERS' FLAT RACE of 10 sovs each, with 100 added; weight for age, &c. Two miles. 15 subs.

Mr. Fitzroy's b h Il Zingaro, by Marsyas—Molly Carew, 5 yrs, 12st 11lb
Lord M. Beresford 1
Mr. J. Percival's br m Penelope, 5 yrs, 12st 3lbMr. E. P. Wilson 2
Mr. T. Cannon's b f Ely—Queensland, 4 yrs, 11st 10lb 10ozMr. H. M. Rudd 3

Mr. T. E. Case-Walker's Romance, 4 yrs, 11st 7lbMr. H. Owen 0
Betting: 6 to 4 agst Penelope, 9 to 4 agst the Queensland filly, 100 to 30 agst Il Zingaro, and 5 to 1 agst Romance. Won easily by a length; a bad third.

WEDNESDAY.

A SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE RACE of 5 sovs each, with 30 added; winner to be sold for 50 sovs. One mile and a half.

Lord M. Beresford's Inchcape, aged, 12st 4lbOwner 1
Mr. A. Yates's Peggy, aged, 12st 7lbOwner 2
Mr. Mead's Royston, aged, 12st 7lbMr. Barnes 3
Mr. E. Woodland's Engineer, aged, 11st 2lbJ. Smith 0
Betting: 2 to 1 on Inchcape, 5 to 1 agst Peggy, and 6 to 1 agst Royston. Won by ten lengths; a bad third. The winner was bought in for 105gs.

A HUNTERS' STEEPLECHASE of 5 sovs each, with 40 sovs added. Three miles.

Mr. J. T. Dodson's Adieu, aged, 12st 4lb 10ozMr. E. P. Wilson 1
Mr. P. M. Jones's Tynemouth, aged, 12st 4lb 10ozMr. Newton 2
Mr. W. Morris's Lancer, aged, 12st 4lb 10ozMr. Barnes 3
Also ran: Cowdray, aged, 12st 4lb 10oz; Early Dawn, 5 yrs, 12st 6lb 10oz; Lady of the Lake, aged, 12st 4lb 10oz.

Betting: 3 to 1 each agst Adieu and Lancer, 5 to 1 each agst Tynemouth and Early Dawn, and 6 to 1 agst Cowdray. Won by a length; a bad third. The winner was sold to Mr. Hurwell for 140gs.

CROYDON FIRST SPRING HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE of 20 sovs each, 10 ft, with 200 added; winners extra. Two miles and a half. 15 subs.

Mr. J. Winfield's Birdcatcher, aged, 12stJ. Antony 1
Mr. Fitzroy's Chiblain, aged, 11st 12lb (inc 7lb ex)Jones 2
Mr. F. J. Hobson's Austerlitz, aged, 11st 4lbOwner 3

Also ran: Messenger, aged, 11st 9lb; Dewdrop, aged, 11st 4lb; Rope-dancer, aged, 11st 4lb; Azor, 6 yrs, 11st 2lb; Abdallah, aged, 11st 1lb (inc 10lb ex); Rufina, aged, 11st.

Betting: 5 to 2 agst Messenger, 5 to 1 each agst Abdallah and Chiblain, 100 to 15 each agst Birdcatcher and Azor, 8 to 1 each agst Rope-dancer and Dewdrop, and 100 to 8 agst Rufina. Won by ten lengths; a bad third.

A SELLING HUNTERS' FLAT RACE of 50 sovs. Two miles.

Mr. Martin's Thinskin, aged, 12st 7lbMr. R. S. Loder 1
Mr. Thornton's Hawkhead, aged, 12st 7lbMr. Rhys 2
Mr. A. Yates's Ismael, aged, 12st 7lbOwner 3
Also ran: Dennis, aged, 12st 7lb 10oz; Black Joe, aged, 12st 7lb.

Betting: 5 to 4 agst Thinskin, and 9 to 4 agst Hawkhead. Won by twelve lengths; a bad third. The winner was bought in for 160gs.

THE ADDISCOMBE STEEPLECHASE HANDICAP of 5 sovs each, with 25 added; the winner to be sold for 70 sovs. Two miles.

Mr. H. Hobson's Peter Simple, aged, 11st 10lbR. P. Anson 1
Mr. Poole's Dunois, aged, 11stCassidy 2
Mr. Cartwright's Edward, aged, 11st 4lbMr. Barnes 3

Also ran: Silvermere, aged, 10st 12lb.

Betting: 11 to 10 on Peter Simple, 4 to 1 each agst Edward and Silvermere, and 6 to 1 agst Dunois. Won by half a length; a bad third. The winner was bought in for 165gs.

A HANDICAP HURDLE RACE of 5 sovs each, with 50 added, winners extra. One mile and a half.

Mr. C. W. Taylor's Red Huntsman, 4 yrs, 10st 4lbOrbell 1
Mr. S. Halford's Chief Ranger, aged, 11stR. P. Anson 2
Mr. Ellerton's Farnsfield, 6 yrs, 11st 4lbLevit 3
Also ran: Birbeck, 6 yrs, 11st 11lb; Walbrooke, 6 yrs, 11st 5lb; Royal Oak, 5 yrs, 10st 10lb; Bellissima, aged, 10st 9lb; Swallow, 4 yrs, 10st.

Mr. Fitzroy declared to win with Birbeck.

Betting: 6 to 4 on Chief Ranger, 5 to 2 agst Birbeck, and 6 to 1 agst Red Huntsman and Royal Oak. Won by two lengths; a bad third.

DONCASTER HUNT MEETING.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

THE HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE PLATE of 60 sovs; about two miles and a half.

Mr. R. Bygot's b g Lacemaker, by Nottingham, aged, 10st 7lb (car. 10st 10lb)Mr. B. Nicholson 1
Mr. R. Brook's ch g Investment, aged, 10st 5lbMr. R. Walker 2
Mr. H. Flower's ch h Daniel, 6 yrs, 11st 9lbMr. R. Kelly 3
Also ran: Outpost, aged, 11st 2lb.

Betting: Evens agst Daniel, 3 to 1 agst Investment, and 6 to 1 agst any other. Won by a length and a half; four lengths between second and third.

THE FITZWILLIAM HUNTERS' HURDLE RACE PLATE of 50 sovs; (1 mile 6 fur. 132 yards), over eight hurdles.

Mr. W. R. Brockton's ch m Maid of Honour, by Knowsley, dam by Young Melbourne, 5 yrs, 12st 5lbOwner 1
Mr. L. Nicholson's br g Bar One, aged, 12st 12lbOwner 2
Mr. Atkinson's b g St. Aldates, 4 yrs, 10st 7lbM. Cornick 3
Colonel Ellis's Andalous, aged, 12st 3lbCaptain Mottram 4
Betting: 13 to 8 on Maid of Honour, 3 to 1 agst Bar One; won by ten lengths.

THE LICENSED VICTUALLERS' STEEPLECHASE of 3 sovs each, with 30 added; about two miles and a half.

Mr. T. Spencer's b g Windfall, by Windgrave or Exchequer—Mrs. Fisher, aged, 11st 2lb 10ozOwner 1
Mr. N. Melbourne's b m Susan, aged, 12st 2lb 10ozMr. Brockton 2
Mr. J. Scott's ch g Merion, aged, 11st 2lb 10ozHeslop 3
Also ran: Fragment, 6 yrs, 11st 2lb 10oz; Cotton, 5 yrs, 11st 2lb 10oz.

Betting: 6 to 4 agst Windfall, 3 to 1 agst Susan, and 100 to 30 agst Merion. Won cleverly by a length; a bad third. The winner was sold to Mr. Dalglish for 72 guineas.

THE STAPLETON PARK STEEPLECHASE of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; about three miles.

Mr. Howsin's b g Adjutant, by The Hadji—Tufflow, 6 yrs, 13st
Mr. Brockton 1
Mr. L. Nicholson's br g Bar One, aged, 13st 11lbOwner 2
Mr. Corder's b g Anacreon, aged, 13stG. Waddington 3
Also ran: Boanerges, 5 yrs, 11st 7lb; Katie, 4 yrs, 11st; Speculation, aged, 12st 2lb; Midnight, 5 yrs, 11st 7lb; Northbrook, aged, 12st 2lb; Merrythorn, 5 yrs, 13st 2lb.

Betting: 3 to 1 agst Boanerges, 7 to 2 agst Adjutant, 5 to 1 agst Katie, and 8 to 1 agst Merrythorn. Won by three lengths; four between second and third.

THE CORPORATION PLATE of 5 sovs each, with 40 added; 2 miles, on the flat.

Mr. T. Wilkinson's br f Truth, by Rowham—Extract, 4 yrs, 11st
Mr. T. Spence 1
Mr. H. Davenport's b h Pitman, 5 yrs, 13stOwner 2
Mr. W. Barber's ch h False Whig, 5 yrs, 11st 7lbJ. Barber 3
Also ran: Durham Castle, 4 yrs, 11st; Babbage, aged, 12st; Batsman, 5 yrs, 11st.

Betting: 5 to 4 agst Pitman, and 7 to 2 agst Truth. Won by ten lengths. Pitman was two lengths in front of False Whig. Mr. Spence was presented with a gold-mounted riding whip as the winner of the first race at the Hunt Meeting over the new course.

THE CHAMPAGNE PLATE of 80 sovs; 2 miles, over eight hurdles.

Mr. C. Hopkinson's b g Dunham Massey, by Cambuscan—Miss Grimston, 5 yrs, 10st 4lbChambers 1
Mr. Heneage's ch g Bonny Blue Flag, 4 yrs, 10st 3lbCarling 2
Mr. R. Howett's bl g Bardolph, 4 yrs, 10st 2lbSkelton 3
Also ran: Gastgeber, 6 yrs, 11st 6lb; Licorice, aged, 11st 5lb.

Betting: 7 to 4 agst Gastgeber, 2 to 1 agst Bardolph, 4 to 1 agst Licorice and 8 to 1 agst Dunham Massey. Won by a length; half a length between second and third.

TUESDAY.

THE BADSWORTH HALL PLATE of 100 sovs, for hunters; 2 miles, on the flat.

Mr. J. M. Richardson's b h Fairfax, by Tournament—Fleur des Bois, 5 yrs, 11st 7lbMr. Spence 1
Mr. W. Finner's ch g Clyde, aged, 13stMr. Baldwin 2
Mr. F. Bland's b h Marshal Saxe, 5 yrs, 11st 7lbOwner 3
Also ran: Number One, aged, 12st; Durham Castle, 4 yrs, 11st 4lb; Andalous, aged, 12st; Kingston, 6 yrs, 12st; Lord Westmoreland, aged, 12st; Truth, 4 yrs, 11st 7lb (inc. 7lb ex); Greystock, 4 yrs, 11st 4lb.

Betting: Even on Truth, 5 to 1 each agst Fairfax and Number One, and 6 to 1 agst Marshal Saxe. Won by three-quarters of a length; a length between second and third.

THE GROVE HURDLE RACE HANDICAP of 3 sovs each, with 40 added; 1 mile 6 fur. 132 yards, over eight hurdles.

Mr. R. Brooks's ch g Investment, by Theobald, dam by Volturo—Pelias, aged, 10st 5lbMr. R. Walker 1
Mr. W. H. Shaw's ch h Bernardet, 6 yrs, 10st 7lbWaddington 0
Betting: 6 to 5 on Bernardet. Won by six lengths. The winner was bought in for 70 guineas.

THE UNITED HUNT STEEPLECHASE of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; about 3 miles. 11 subs.

Captain Inge's b m Lady Shirley, by Cavendish—Bay Shirley (h b), 6 yrs, 12st 3lbChambers 1
Lord Berkeley Paget's b g Boanerges, 5 yrs, 11st 12lbMr. Kelly 2
Mr. C. J. Cunningham's b m Dora, aged, 12st 3lbOwner 3
Also ran: Valuer, aged, 12st 3lb; Freemason, 6 yrs, 12st 3lb.

Betting: 5 to 2 each agst Dora and Boanerges, 7 to 2 agst Lady Shirley, and 6 to 1 bar three. Won by a head; six lengths between second and third.

THE HUNTERS' FLAT RACE of 3 sovs each, with 40 added; 2 miles on the flat.

Mr. T. Spence's br h Verger, by Cathedral—Barmston's dam, 6 yrs, 12st 10lbOwner 1
Colonel Ellis's b m Andalous, aged, 12st 10lbCaptain Mottram 2
Mr. N. Melbourne's b m Susan, aged, 12st 10lbMr. Brockton 3
Also ran: Meccenas, aged, 12st 10lb; Legacy, 4 yrs, 11st 10lb; Northbrook, aged, 12st 10lb; m by Wamba—Wicket 12st 10lb.

Betting: 7 to 4 on Verger, 11 to 2 agst Meccenas, 6 to 1 agst Susan, and 100 to 15 agst Northbrook. Won by two lengths; three-lengths between second and third.

THE DONCASTER HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE of 5 sovs each, with 60 added. About three miles.

Mr. R. Bygot's b g Lacemaker, by Nottingham, aged, 11st (inc 7lb ex)Mr. L. Nicholson 1
Mr. C. A. Egerton's ch h St. Aubyn, aged, 12st 7lbMr. W. R. Brockton 2

Mr. H. Flower's ch h Daniel, 6 yrs, 11st 9lbMr. R. Kelly 3
Mr. H. Flower's Harmonides, 5 yrs, 11st 12lbCarling 0
Betting: 7 to 4 each agst Daniel and St. Aubyn, 3 to 1 agst Lacemaker, and 20 to 1 agst Harmonides. Won by four lengths; the same distance between second and third.

MAIDEN HUNTERS' HURDLE RACE PLATE of 40 sovs. Two miles, over eight hurdles.

Mr. T. Bissell's b h Robert de Todaei (late Robin) (h b), by Light Bob, dam by Gunboat, 6 yrs, 12stMr. W. R. Brockton 1
Mr. R. Danby's ch g Exedra, aged, 12stWigglesworth 2
Mr. J. H. Peart, jun.'s bl m Emily, 6 yrs, 12stMr. J. Walker 3
Betting: 5 to 4 agst Robert de Todaei, 2 to 1 agst Exedra, and 5 to 1 agst Emily. Won easily by ten lengths; six divided Exedra and Emily.

ON Monday the international football match, "Scotland v. Ireland," took place at Belfast. It rained during almost the entire match. Scotland won. The result of the contest was, Scotland six goals, two ties, seven touches in defence, and one touch in goal; Ireland nil. The Scotch team were entertained by the Northern Football Union of Ireland.

OPERATIC CELEBRITIES.



VERACINA.
FRANCOIS XAVIER GEMINIANI.

AARON HILL.
SIGNORA FAUSTINA.

FELICE GIARDINI.
MONS. ALBERT.

OUR CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

It makes one reflect upon the shortcomings of burlesque writers to witness how certain works of this class which, as they left the authors' hands and appeared upon the first night of their production were ineffably stupid and spiritless, have been gradually worked up by the actors into really amusing pieces of extravagance.

It is astonishing how much the works of Mr. H. B. Farnie have owed their success to after-process of histrionic enlivenment. I don't



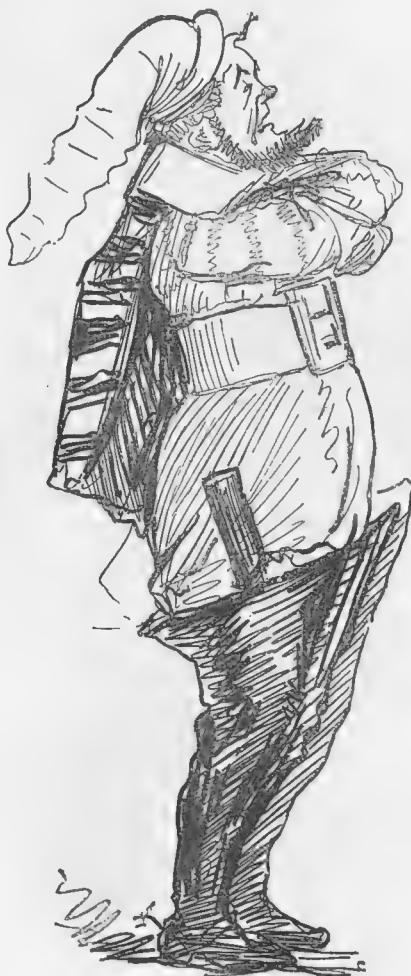
suppose that among contemporary writers of burlesque it would be possible to find one more dull-witted than Mr. Farnie, in respect of his dialogue and general sense of humour. Yet he is one of the most successful manufacturers of burlesque there is. His talent for appropriating every effective scene, situation, incident, word, song, chorus, or dance, that he happens to come

Robinson Crusoe at the Folly Theatre. Even Mr. Farnie has never been guilty of putting upon the stage a more inveterately dreary production than *Robinson Crusoe* was when it first made its appearance. So dreary and tame and tedious was it that any manager less experienced than Mr. Alexander Henderson in the art of "working" pieces would have withdrawn it in a very few days after its production. Mr. Henderson, however, had reason to put faith in the abilities of his leading players, and he was financially in a position to stand out against temporary failure, thereby giving the said players, in whose powers he had confidence, the time and opportunity of clearing the play of Farnie's obstructions, as the Farnese Hercules might have cleared the celebrated Augean Stables by running through them the bright waters of the river Alpheus. [I'm perfectly correct in my classical allusions, because I have Lempriere at my elbow.] At all events, unpromising as the labour might at first have seemed it is beyond doubt that *Robinson Crusoe* has ceased to be depressingly stupid, and has become quite exhilarating and amusing.

But it is irritating to think that so much time and money should be expended in making a dull piece merry, when, without great difficulty, dozens of pieces might have been procured, that would not have required such labour and expense to make them thoroughly entertaining.

The fact I have to deal with, however, is that *Robinson Crusoe* has grown amusing, and the reasons are not difficult to discern. The piece still remains hopelessly incoherent as to plot. This need not greatly disturb anyone, for in the class of stage productions to which it belongs, a plot is more an encumbrance than otherwise. If the modern burlesque or extravaganza, or whatever it may be termed, gives a sufficiently lively alternation of ludicrous "business," comic songs, pretty choruses, and fascinating dances, your good-natured playgoers need not complain. And when the ludicrous business is in the hands of such comedians as Lionel Brough, when such artists as Miss Lydia Thompson and Willie Edouin have the chief share of the singing and dancing, when the pretty choruses are sung by the prettiest of pretty girls, attired in the brightest and most ravishing of burlesque costumes, the gratification of one's theatrical senses is a foregone conclusion.

Therefore, leaving on one side, as an element of little con-



Will Atkins.

sequence, the authorial features of *Robinson Crusoe*, I will take a glance at each of the individual performances which now render the theatrical show at the Folly Theatre an agreeably diverting entertainment. Beginning with her, who by the right of sex, as well as by acknowledged supremacy over the kingdom of burlesque, claims first consideration, I may as well concede at once that Miss Lydia Thompson never fails of being bright, lively, refined, and charming in any burlesque part she undertakes to play. It seems a little odd that this lady should stand so entirely alone among our burlesque actresses as the single representative of the refined style of extravaganza acting, to which the earlier generation of playgoers for whom Planché wrote, were accustomed. There are other burlesque actresses on the stage equally amusing and quite as lively, but they all exhibit more or less of a music-hall influence of which Lydia Thompson has no trace. No matter what description of character she illustrates, or what sort of costume she wears, Miss Thompson is always singularly free from any approach to vulgarity. The term which can be applied to both her singing and dancing is that expressive one, "good taste." As *Robinson Crusoe*, attired in a snowy fleecy costume, she invests even the common-place libretto of Mr. Farnie with a grace and charm which make one sorry that it is not more worthy of such artistic refinement.

In very amusing contrast to the delicate buffoonery of Lydia Thompson is the broad humour of irrepressible Lionel Brough. It is well that this actor has ere now given abundant proofs of his ability as a low comedian in more legitimate walks of art. Otherwise one would be tempted sometimes to regard him too much in the light of an exuberant impromptu droll, so much does he seem to depend upon the haphazard humour of the moment for exciting the mirth of his audience. Lionel Brough is supremely audacious at "gag," but, unlike most other low comedians, he never displays any effort at forcing a point upon the comprehension of auditors. He possesses a quaint manner of appearing self-congratulatory, and no matter how common-place or far-fetched the jest he may utter, he always receives it with an

inward chuckle of satisfied appreciation that is provokingly funny. In *Robinson Crusoe* he was provided with a part that seemed hopelessly devoid of any comic material upon which he might work. It is still perfectly meaningless and obscure in respect of its bearing upon the action of the piece. But he makes even Jim Cocks entertaining. Lionel Brough, however, is fit for things so very much better that it seems a pity that he should be obliged to reduce all his comedy-talent to the level of such productions as *Robinson Crusoe*.

Mr. Willie Edouin, whose antics as the "Heathen Chinee," in



Bluebeard, were so entertaining, tries his best, but almost in vain, to make something consistently amusing out of the part of Friday. Only on occasions when he has an opportunity to display his skill as a grotesque dancer, does one for the moment condone the stupid buffoonery which he is called upon to illustrate. Mr. Philip Day, one of the best young actors on the stage in the higher class of comedy and drama, undertakes a burlesque part (Will Atkins) with a spirit and an energy that do credit to the thoroughness of his training. The rising generation of juvenile men limit their theatrical experience to the cuff-shooting exercise.

In respect of the feminine elements, the Folly possesses a wealth of pretty girls, and they are all delightfully costumed. There is Miss Violet Cameron, who has not only increased in stature and



A few "Extras"

in bloom of beauty, but also in artistic accomplishments. She plays Polly Hopkins with a girlish naivete quite refreshing. There is Miss Ella Chapman, who dances so dexterously and prettily, that the enthusiasm of the stalls is fairly elicited, and vents itself in showers of bouquets. There is Miss Emily Duncan, who is nothing if not handsome, as O-Pop-o-Nax, an Indian prince, attired most gorgeously, and highly ornamental. While there is a host of lesser luminaries, whose names I cannot accurately remember, but some of whose pretty forms and features continue to haunt my vision. To conclude, I must say that the *Very Latest Edition of Robinson Crusoe*, written by H. B. Farnie, is a very wretched "book" very superlatively illustrated.



"Poot it in the Bawg"

across is marvellous. It would be curious to discover how much of the more humorous quality of *Bluebeard* was due to the ostensible author, and how much to the lively fancy, fertile in drolleries, of Mr. Lionel Brough. And what occurred in the case of *Bluebeard* has occurred in the case of

TURFIANA.

POOR old Snarry was almost as remarkable a Doncaster character in his way as his late master the "Sir Tatton," of apple pie and home-brewed ale memory; and visitors to the Glasgow paddocks in the Leger week never failed to see the quaintly-attired veteran ever at hand near the yearling boxes to do the honours of an introduction to his pets. Of late years his figure had been missing from his old haunts, but we can well recollect the pride with which he opened Doncaster's box door, and expatiated on the merits of his "All Heart and no Peel," as he had been somewhat absurdly christened at Sledmere. There was on all occasions a little by play between Mr. Tattersall and the old man when his yearlings came into the ring, and Snarry would invariably stand in the centre, following round his young charges with an uplifted stick, and chirping to keep them on the move. "Well, Snarry," Mr. Tattersall would say, "I did hope to have made a thousand of one of yours," while the bids kept slowly mounting upwards, when the cheery reply would always be forthcoming, "Oh, keep a good heart, keep a good heart," though the veteran never seemed quite to get over Doncaster never reaching four figures. He had his yearlings too fat and lusty, and hence perhaps none of the Marigold family get fairly into condition before their third year, and all of them seem to train on. The Osbornes managed things well for Snarry with Lily Agnes, and she picked up quite a small fortune for him in the North, and visited Speculum last spring. For an account of Snarry at home, his sayings and doings, and his connection with the Sledmere Stud, with its Daniel colts, and Sleight-of-Hand mares innumerable, we must refer our readers once more to the lively pages of that faithful chronicler, the "Druid," whose day at Sir Tatton's must have been one of his happiest recollections. A more honest, straightforward, and trusty servant never drew breath, and thus all traces both of master and man hailing from Sledmere have been swept away, and we lose sight of the last of a much cherished type of servitor.

Continuing our notes on the Derby candidates, Plunger next claims our attention, and this colt we had a capital opportunity of thoroughly looking over at Doncaster last September, when the downpour during the start for the Portland Plate drove both man and beast for refuge under the saddling-shed in the paddock. At that time he struck us as a leggy, unfurnished, angular colt, built upon much the same lines as the late Lord Clifden in his two-year-old days. Observers of blood stock will have noticed that many of Adventurer's produce are inclined to be such as we have described Plunger, and it will be recollected that most of the Sheffield Lane sire's most distinguished sons and daughters have done all their best things as three-year-olds and upwards. If we had heard that Plunger had grown upwards, we should have thought less of his chance than we do at present; and the great merit of his performances hitherto has been their consistency rather than their brilliancy. He is a trifle wanting in width, and too long in the shanks to come up to our *beau ideal* of a Derby nag; but we are inclined to think him a thoroughly game honest horse, very useful to fall back upon should the front rank of the Derby candidates become thinned by casualties, but not to be considered in the face of Chamant. At Doncaster he may cut a more respectable figure, and his fine sweeping stride and length will be sure to tell in his favour if he stands up until the St. Leger bell rings. So far, we are credibly informed, Plunger has done well, and as he is in excellent hands, he will no doubt be spiritedly supported by the heavy weight of metal behind Hayhoe's cracks. But we consider that his present price is altogether a false one, especially when it is taken into consideration that neither Lady Golightly nor Pellegrino were all that

could be desired in point of health and condition on the Middle Park Plate day. As regards Plunger's breeding, it leaves nothing to be desired, his dam being sister to Caterer, so that he gets two crosses of Touchstone, in addition to the Emilius and Birdcatcher strains, with a dash of Velocipede, too, in his composition. Pellegrino, like most of the Palmers, is a lengthy horse, and shows perhaps more quality than any of the more prominent Derby favourites. We thought he was one of the nicest yearlings sold at Doncaster in 1875, and he is altogether a better coupled nag than Forerunner, though there may be a trifle too much length above. He is a very elastic, blood-like colt, with easy sweeping action, and like most of the Beadsman family promises to improve with age, like his relative Forerunner who performed so creditably last year. The question is whether a horse of his build will be so well suited to Epsom as some others yet to be brought under notice, but in this respect he is quite as likely looking as either Chamant or Plunger. Pellegrino's dam is by Macaroni out of Secret, by Melbourne out of Mystery by Jerry, a combination of such excellent blood, that it would be difficult to frame a pedigree worthier of a Derby winner. We are correct in stating that Pellegrino ran as well as ever his trainer expected him to do, for at Goodwood he was merely started to learn his business in public, and at Newmarket, in the autumn, he was hardly so well as the stable could wish. If all has gone well with Pellegrino during the recess, the horse in Robert Peck's stable, be it Morier, Actæon, or anything else in the dark lot, which can beat Pellegrino at 7lb, with a little "up his sleeve," will present a formidable front to the French invader, promising that the young Palmer has not made sufficient improvement on his own account to do the trick himself. Of Morier we spoke last week, so that we need not allude to him further, except to state that he is just the sort of horse for the public to hanker after on the *omne ignotum pro magifico* principle, and it is notorious that the presence of a good horse in any stable invariably sets people thinking about a better one behind the scenes. We are glad to see Russley maintaining its proud right to furnish a prominent Derby favourite, and every one would be glad to see its principal supporter achieve an early distinction, which might be the means of a yet more princely support being accorded to the racing game by the descendant of the owner of Touchstone.

Cardinal York's subscription is nearly full, and he has some capital names on his list, including six of Mr. Gee's mares and others of good class. Should Helena and his other winners continue in their well-doing this season, and his two-year-olds sustain their promise, we shall not long have the opportunity of obtaining the services of one of the smartest sons of Newminster at 40 guineas; and though his first sample was rather on the small side, we are inclined to think that this deficiency arose from preventable causes, which need not militate against their saleable properties in future. We shall be curious to see, too, how it fares with the young Paul Jones's which made such a highly respectable average at Cobham last year, and we are glad to hear that Mr. Everitt, with a thorough belief in his horse, is gathering together suitable mares for the bold piratical "steam engine." So that after all Paul may expect some more glorious termination to his career than being "stuffed with onions, and sent to the Admiral," as his owner threatened to do when the Cesarewitch weights appeared. Eastern Princess has tired of her old love Blair Athol, at last, it would seem, and gone on a visit to King of Scots, a sire which a great many breeders appear to be "eaten up with," though his shoulders are not quite all that can be desired. Mr. Carew Gibson announces that Paganini is to have "five approved mares gratis," not a bad idea for giving him a start, and it may be said in favour of the gallant old fiddler that he comes of a distinguished family all but extinct in the male

line. At Cobham Jocosa and Vergeiss-mein-nicht both have Blair Athol fillies, and strange mares are arriving by shoals to the crack sires. Mr. Houldsworth sends his two Thormanby mares, Lady Morgan and Sunshine to Macaroni, and we see that Carnelion is in the Mentmore stallion list, a very nice shapely horse and one likely to do the Stud good service. Thunder is in good request at Messrs. Barrow's, as we expected he would be, and Mr. Bowes sends Toison d'Or to him, besides others which were "put down" to him, as soon as it was known he was about to start in life as a "father of our kings to be."

Curiously enough, the death of Captain "Jossey" Little is announced at a time when the subject of big jumps has once more occupied public attention, and when Chandler's name has been in many mouths. With that horse and with Peter Simple the name of the Captain will be always associated, and though of late years even the time-honoured Bibury Club Meeting seemed to possess no attractions for one of our best and most popular gentleman riders, it is not so very long ago since we saw his last mount in the Danebury valley. A great favourite in all sporting circles, his well known figure (not quite so dapper of late years) will be missed from many a familiar rendezvous during the coming season, and there are many we could better have spared than Captain Little, who was an excellent type of the gentleman rider in days when that class was composed of fewer but more finished exponents of the art than now.

There are not many changes to record in the betting market, but Bruce and Lollypop continue to hold their own in Lincolnshire Handicap returns, and by these two and Grassendale we shall still be content to stand. Poursuivant is now at the head of quotations, and on paper no candidate possesses a sweeter chance, but he has never yet compassed a mile successfully, and the Carholme race is no mere T.Y.C. scramble. For the Croydon Hurdle Race, Hopbloom is said to be progressing most satisfactorily, while his former stable companion, Scamp, makes his way towards the head of the quotations, and we have more than one instance of what are termed "slow maddling horses" upon the flat, taking kindly to the flagged course, the various obstacles giving them, so to speak, time for reflection. The City and Suburban is attracting little or no attention, but if Bruce should fail at Lincoln, he will have a capital chance given him at Epsom, and if all we hear of his improvement is true, his omission from the Derby entries is more than ever to be regretted, and it should not be forgotten that he showed promise of ripening into a stayer rather than of degenerating into a sprinter by his public running last year. SKYLARK.

ON Friday week the Prince of Wales, attended by Sir Dighton Probyn, hunted with her Majesty's staghounds, near Maidenhead.

THE members of the International Gun and Polo Club assembled with visitors at Preston on Monday last, when two optional and other sweepstakes were decided, and were favoured with particularly fine weather. The first optional was won by B. Darvall, and the second by Mr. Carrington, after displaying great skill at some of the best blue rocks ever flown. Several £1 and £2 sweepstakes, at three birds each, were also decided, the winners being Captain Vaughan, Mr. Seaton, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Woodman, and Mr. Bruin. On Monday next, in addition to optional and other events, a sweepstakes of 5 sovs. at five birds each, will be decided.

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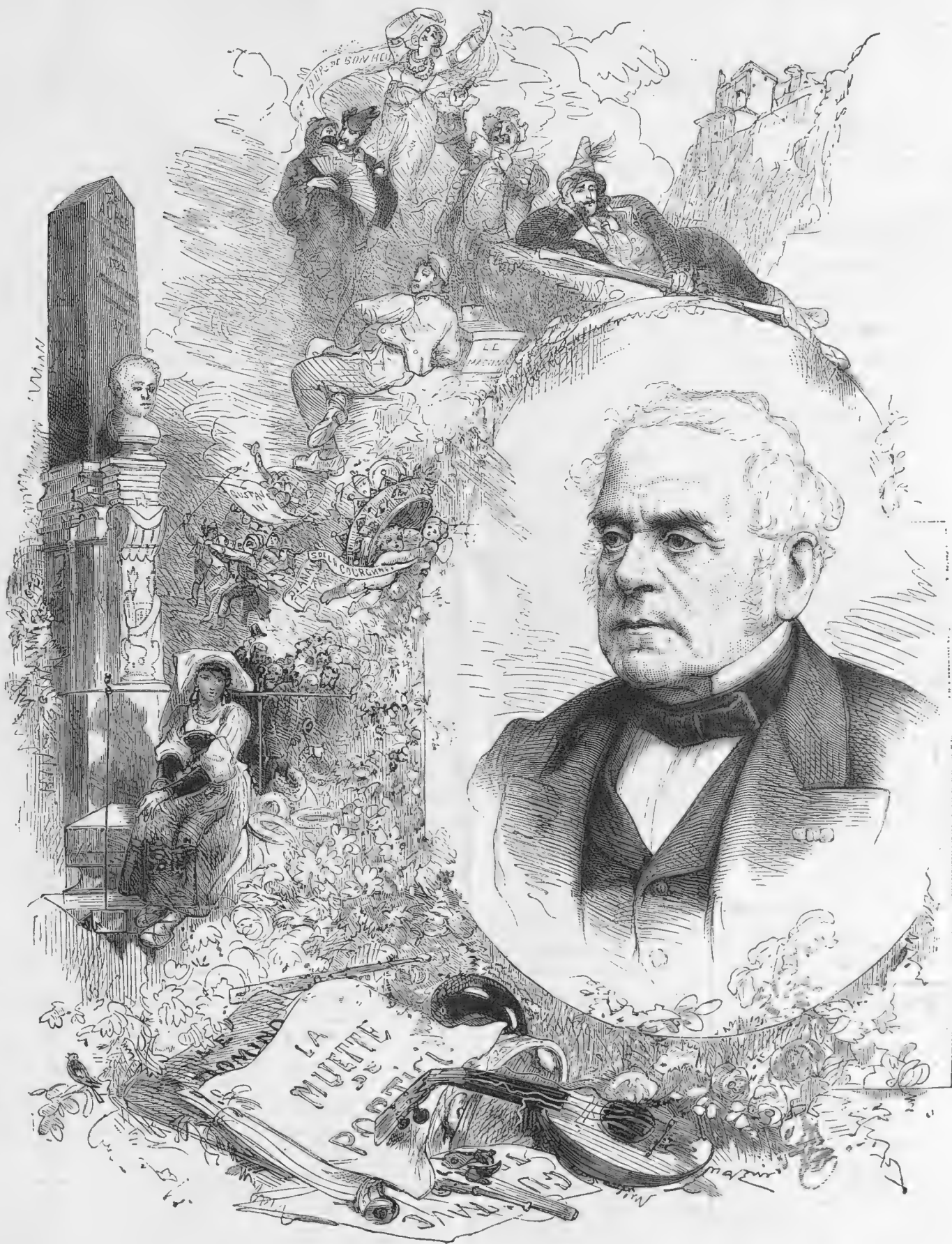
II.—MRS. MONCKTON.

R. B. PRAKE, for many years treasurer of the Theatre Royal, English Opera, and a clever farce writer, was unusually severe on amateurs, to whom in one of his most successful pieces he thus refers. O. P. Bustle, a professional manager, engaged to attend some private theatricals, speaks as follows:—"I shall shortly have the pleasure of introducing you to my employers—liberal patrons but barbarous murderers of the drama. We who know something of the matter must laugh at private performers. As Garrick

observed, one easily sees when the amateurs are acting, that there is not an actor among them." Wing, a country actor, thus replies, "Very true, Mr. Bustle, and 'twould be hard, indeed, if the children of Thespis, whose lives have been devoted to the laborious study of their profession, could be suddenly eclipsed by any new made votary of the buskin, who may choose 'to strut and fret his hour'—no, his minute—on the stage, and then, to the great satisfaction of his friends, be heard no more." Buskin, "If, indeed, these stage-struck heroes would divert their attention to cultivate the art, and patronise it in the professors, as in the days of the good old school, some advantage might be derived by the public from their efforts." The above was written in the year 1818, since which period amateurs have "cultivated the art," and have devoted much of their time to "the laborious study of their

unprofessional profession." If we wanted an example we should find it in Mrs. Monckton, the subject of this memoir.

That Mrs. Monckton was born to flourish on the amateur boards, as she would have done on the regular stage, the various qualities of her mind and person evidently prove. Of the latter we have only to say that her face is handsome and highly expressive, her voice is full of musical sweetness, and her eyes possess a fire and vivacity equally suited to the dignity of serious characters, or the joyousness of lighter parts. This lady has a good figure, a form finely moulded, combining the grace and elegance of *une dame de société*. In respect to the former, Mrs. Monckton must have, in early life, felt that she had that within which seldom fails to reward its possessors, viz., a consciousness of talent, with a determined resolution to cultivate it by every



PORTRAIT OF AUBER AND VIEW OF HIS TOMB.

act of assiduous and unremitting attention. It is difficult to say whether her *forte* lies in the graver and pathetic characters, such as Lady Eveline in *The Wife's Secret*, Madame de Fontanges in *Plot and Passion*, Anne Carew in *A Sheep in Wolf's Clothing*; or in the higher walks of comedy, such as Lady Gay Spanker in *London Assurance*, Miss Hardcastle in *She Stoops to Conquer*, or the Countess D'Autreval in *The Ladies' Battle*, for she is equally great in both. In fact, every part she undertakes, she plays well. The roundness and precision of her voice enable her to excel in all the varieties of recitation, and she combines the ease and elegance of Miss Faren (afterwards Countess of Derby) with the rich natural humour of Mrs. Jordan.

The forcible manner of Mrs. Monckton in *The Wife's Secret*

and *Anne Carew* (two of her greatest triumphs) can never be effaced from the minds of those who have had the good fortune to witness those performances; the easy lady-like deportment, the graceful action in high comedy, can only be exceeded by the vivacity she throws into such a part as Miss Hardcastle. Mrs. Monckton's power of study is favourable to her genius, in no instance does she require the aid of that useful and generally ill-used personage the prompter, who "though lost to sight is (often) to memory dear." Her anxiety to do justice to every part she undertakes is truly praiseworthy; her first object appears to be to get at the author's meaning, and then to embody it truthfully. At rehearsals, instead of following the example of many who "walk" through their parts, saying "they will act it at night," Mrs.

Monckton pays every attention, not alone to the words intrusted to her, but to the most minute "business." Her greatest praise may be summed up in the remark of a gentleman in the boxes, on Mrs. Pope's first appearance. "In the fulness of his heart he exclaimed, "This must be good acting, because it is so little like acting."

It is interesting to add that Mrs. Monckton is so far a genuine amateur that she has never had the good fortune of a lesson in either elocution or gesture. The comments of the London Press upon her recent appearance on the stage of the Opera Comique (noticed on another page) will vouch for the truth of our statements, regarding the histrionic talent of this most accomplished lady.

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All advertisements for "THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS" should arrive not later than Thursday morning, addressed to "The Publisher," 148, Strand, W.C. Scale of Charges on application.

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The Editor will not be responsible for the return of rejected communications, and to this rule he can make no exception.

Dramatic and Sporting Correspondents will oblige the Editor by placing the word "Drama" or "Sporting," as the case may be, on the corner of the envelope.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

•• We have hitherto answered the larger number of letters containing queries, by post, but these are now becoming so numerous that for the future we shall reply only through the medium of this column.

DRAMATIC.

V. V. V.—Kemble retired in 1877.
SOUTHERNER.—The author of *Douglas* was Mr. Home, a Scotch clergyman, who was deprived of his living for having written it. George III. settled a pension upon him.

ALFRED HURST (Derby).—The law whereby an actor was considered a rogue and a vagabond, liable to fine and imprisonment if he performed in any parish except that in which he had a legal settlement, was not abolished until the reign of the fourth George.

C. J. F. (Croydon).—Mr. Archer.

G. WESTON.—You have jumped to a false conclusion. We frequently send representatives to amateur performances, and in charity, refrain from publishing the reports of our critics. The performance you name was a very melancholy affair; we saw no good to be obtained by "slating" it, and we wanted the space for more interesting matter. We do not "attack," but criticise.

EASTERN.—Sir Walter Scott's two dramas, *The Doom of Devoigoil* and *The Ayrshire Tragedy* were written for Mr. Terry, when he was manager of the Adelphi Theatre, but were not played in consequence of their unfitness for the stage.

W. DECKER.—The pennon was carried by squires, not knights, who bore banners. Such mistakes are very common on the stage.

W. G. R.—Theatres abound in China, and are extremely popular, the great towns are full of them, and their performances take place by day and night. Every little village, says Huc, the French traveller, has its theatre, which is usually placed opposite to the pagoda, and sometimes even forms part of it. Temporary theatres are often very ingeniously constructed with bamboo canes. Their stages are without scenery, and the female parts are played, as they used to be in England, by boys and young men. The companies are all of the itinerant kind, and travel with enormous loads of apparatus, costumes, and decorations. In the great towns, at every hour of the day and night, a theatrical performance may be visited, and the lower classes are always admitted gratuitously. Neither hissing nor applause is heard in a Chinese theatre.

MUSICAL.

X.—The petite opera of *Matrimony*, by Mr. Kenney, was adapted from a French piece called *Adolph et Clara*, and was first performed at the Haymarket Theatre, in July, 1831.

S. HUBERT.—In 1734, the chief manager of the Opera was Lord Cowper, under Porpora.

J. H. (Oxford).—"The Musical Small Coal Man," was Mr. Thomas Britton, who was born near Higham Ferrers, in Northamptonshire. He lived next door to "the little gate" of St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell Green, and died in September, 1714.

PADDYWHACK.—"Sally in Our Alley" was written by Henry Carey, poet, musical composer, and dramatist. His *Chrononhotonthologos* was played at the Little Theatre, in the Haymarket, in 1734. Being in great poverty and distress in 1744, he committed suicide at his house in Warner-street, Cold Bath Fields. His son was Edmund Kean's grandfather.

ZIG-ZAG.—Henry Purcell died on November 21st, 1695, and his death is traditionally traced to a cold he caught while waiting for admittance at the door of his own residence; he, to counteract a habit he had of staying out late, having given his wife and servants orders never to admit him if he knocked after midnight. On the occasion in question he came home hot with wine and haste from some tavern, on a bitter winter night after the prescribed hour, and was not admitted. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. Dryden wrote an ode on his death, which Dr. Blow set to music, and the tablet to his memory in the Abbey was erected by Dryden's wife, Lady Howard, the eldest daughter of Thomas, Earl of Berkshire, who had been his pupil.

U. R.—Unable to reply.

V. G. S.—Unsuitable.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MANAGER.—A small daily paper called the *Tatler* was published in 1829-30 and 31. The original *Tatler* was first published on the 12th of April, 1709.

T. WARREN.—We are acquainted with no work containing information of the kind you mention. That which comes nearest to it is, perhaps, "Cassell's Household Guide," now being re-issued in monthly parts. You will also find some such information in a volume by the same publishers, called "Facts and Hints for Every Day Life," by Mr. A. H. Wall, who also edited the first named when it was originally produced.

E. G. (Notting-hill).—Thanks; but we have no vacancy.

W. S. (Oregon, U.S.).—Thanks for your suggestion, which we shall endeavour to carry out.

O. B.—We regret our inability to accept your offer.

T. H. B. (Linthorpe).—Not up to our mark.

DRAMA.—Sir Thomas More wrote an account of "the Life and Reign of Edward V. and Richard III.," probably in 1513, which has been published in a cheap form as one of Murray and Son's series of valuable reprints. We know nothing more complete. It partakes strongly of the Lancastrian prejudices against Richard, and was, of course, based upon the chronicles and traditions which were in existence at the time he wrote, for Sir Thomas was about three years old when King Richard was killed, and could, therefore, know nothing personally of his reign and life. It is supposed that most of the materials for this history were derived from the recollections of More's friend, Bishop Morton, who was known to have been King Richard's most bitter enemy. If you want a comprehensive and critical survey of all the historical accounts of Richard's reign, you should read Caroline A. Halsted's "Richard III.," published by Longman in 1844 (2 vols.).

C. BILLINGS (Guernsey).—Dutton Cook's "Book of the Play" will supply the information fully.

ARTHUR THE LITTLE.—Antiquaries differ as to the song of "Arthur-a-Bradley," referred to in the "Robin Hood Ballad," as several old songs of that name are in existence. One of the best known is published in Griffin and Co.'s cheap little volume "Ballads and Songs of the Peasantry of England."

THE ILLUSTRATED
Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1877.

THE Presidency of an University Boat Club must be an office entailing upon its holder, at this time of year at least, as many cares and anxieties as perplex the breast of a party leader, or the commander of a great army just about to take the field. At this otherwise dull season of the year, when the sporting journals are hard up for copy, and pastime has not yet dared to take her first flight of the season, the eyes of all interested in matters aquatic, which class may be said to comprise a very large majority of our countrymen, are turned in the direction of Cam or Isis, eager for news from the head-quarters of dark and light blue, and anxious to pick up every scrap of information in connection with the contest to be decided on the bosom of old Father Thames "in the windy gleams of March." In former days, before society in general had deemed it *derigueur* to attach itself to one or other of the opposing factions, comparatively little curiosity was manifested to obtain information from other than mere casual sources, and even the strongest partisans were content to wait until the rival crews appeared at Putney, which, in the good old days, was generally only a few days, or at most a week, before the decision of the race. Now we have changed all that, and the public, superficially educated by a multitude of counsellors in matters aquatic, will not rest content without their daily pabulum of information from the seats of learning, and expect to be kept posted up in all the latest doings of the crews. These eighteen young gentlemen representatives of Oxford and Cambridge are as diligently touted as ever was a Derby or St. Leger favourite, and long before the practice at Putney the form of each individual oarsman has been commented upon and dissected, until the many-headed is posted up in every detail of personal appearance, and would fain be further informed as to their family history and private affairs. All this, though in some cases naturally annoying to the feelings of individuals thus temporarily elevated into the positions of "men of mark," may be harmless enough in itself, and

there will be found plenty to make excuses for this undue stretch of curiosity, upon the ground that its object is not an unworthy one, like the interest exhibited in the case of "instruments of gambling" and their doings at training quarters. But in reality this insatiable thirst for information as to the progress of the crews, this morbid longing after riverside reports, has been and will continue to be (so long as the demand regulates the supply of this kind of information) a serious drawback to the chief performers in the race and to their mentors and well-wishers alike. After all said and done, the University Boat Race reduces itself into a private trial of skill and strength upon a public highway, and it is clear that whatever rights people may possess of assembling at the scene of action, taking a holiday on the Boat Race day, and making things as uncomfortable as they can for those most interested in the great aquatic event of the year—they cannot claim one morsel of a pretence for interfering, either directly or indirectly, in the formation of the crews and their subsequent preparation for the race. Captains have a sufficiently difficult and delicate task in endeavouring to satisfy the claims of the numerous aspirants to a seat in the eight-oar, and in pleasing the little republic contained in their University; and quite enough responsibility is placed upon their shoulders, without the additional burden which unfair pressure from without must naturally entail. They have enough differences in ideas to decide between at home, without gratuitous expressions of opinion abroad, and it surely would be better taste for public prints to refrain from criticism, however fair and able, on the actions of those who most certainly are more deeply interested in the success of their crews than mere outsiders, many of them shallow, superficial judges of rowing, presuming to air their ignorance in reliance upon the fact that the majority of their readers are still more ignorant than themselves. It is folly to say that the action of a captain or a coach is not in some degree hampered by strictures from without, which undoubtedly exercise a disturbing influence upon the public mind of the University world, which, having placed the choice of racing representatives in certain hands, should not be warped from its allegiance by the cuckoo cry of intruders upon the scene. It is for these reasons and for many others, that we entirely sympathise with the tone of a letter addressed to a contemporary by an old Oxford oarsman of standing and repute, wherein he deprecates in terms not one whit too strong, the practice now in vogue among "Casual Correspondents," at Oxford and Cambridge, of embarrassing the minds of captains by advice as uncalled for as it is injudicious. Everybody thinks he can row, and, moreover, that he is a judge of rowing, until sad experience has taught him that both these qualities, more especially the latter, are comparatively rare gifts, and, to a great extent, natural gifts, though capable of cultivation by their possessors. It is easy enough to collect and to scatter broadcast through a "slashing" article, mere technical terms such as "catch," "grip," "hang," "lift," and other expressions culled from the argot of racing men, but real judgment of the forms of oarsmen both collectively and individually, and the power of imparting instruction, it is given to few—to very few—to acquire. We quite agree with Mr. Risley in his remark that, "it is nothing short of presumption and impertinence for outsiders to deliver their private opinions on the formation of a University crew, in a public paper." The public cannot claim to be informed of all the wild rumours and absurd reports which are constantly in circulation among riverside touts, on the ground that they possess any of those vested rights, which by a stretch of imagination, they may be supposed to do with regard to a racehorse; for University rowing owes nothing whatever to extraneous support, being an essentially private recreation, while the end and object of the race itself is merely the honour reflected upon the winning crew, neither side requiring any artificial stimulus in the shape of "added money" from the crowds which only tend to render its decision both dangerous and difficult.

The long and the short of the matter is that there is a vast deal too much of exaggerated importance and senseless "puff" imported into the preparations for the race as well as the race itself, not by the instrumentality of the principal performers (who would be the last to court publicity), but by the meddlesome intrusion of "outsiders," who are nothing if not sensational, and who would fain drag down the University Boat Race to a level of equal morality with a "win, tie, or wrangle" match between a couple of Tynesiders. We should be sorry to see University boat-racing drifting in such a direction, and it is solely through the inherent nobility (so to speak) of the annual contest that it has not taken its place beside those unsatisfactory wagers which have brought professional rowing into ridicule and disrepute. By all means let the public have the benefit of the results of fair personal observation of the material now in course of formation for the respective crews, but correspondents surely exceed their duty, if they do not transgress their instructions, by dictating to the authorities the changes which are to take place, or the tactics to be adopted. Even the "professional horsewatcher" confines himself strictly to observing and recording the movements of the various strings he has been directed to tout, and we never hear of any diligent observer at Newmarket giving Tom Jennings advice as to the kind of work Chamant should do, or hinting to Matt Dawson that Lady Golightly would be all the better for a dose of physic. In his native pothouse the tout is at liberty to retail all this small beer of advice, but the public will not thank him for it; and in the same manner critics of rowing might spare us the infliction of sentiments, doubtless sincere enough, but totally uncalled for at their hands. Each University is zealous and disinterested in selecting her best oarsmen, without fear or favour, and with one object solely in view; and although occasionally in the "multitude of councillors there is safety," the obtrusion of unasked-for advice is, as Mr. Risley well puts it, "nothing short of presumption and impertinence."

In our notice of "Novelty in Military Kettle Drums," we should have mentioned that the manufacturers were Messrs. Henry Potter and Co., of Charing-cross, there being other firms of musical instrument makers bearing the same name.

HEATHERTHORP.

A SPORTING STORY.

BY BYRON WEBBER.

CHAPTER VI.

POURTRAYS A PASSAGE IN THE ANCIENT COURSE "WHICH NEVER DID RUN SMOOTH;" EXHIBITS THAT AWFUL PERSON, THE BRITISH FATHER, WITH HIS BACK UP; AND ILLUSTRATES THE WONDERFUL CAPACITY FOR CONSPIRACY WHICH A SUMMER'S GLOAMING MAY DEVELOP IN TWO YOUNG LADIES, WHEN ONE OF THEM IS IN LOVE AND THE OTHER INCENSED.

HEATHERTHORP was itself again. The Doctor duly sent Woodridge "a cheque for a hundred;" Matthew Crisp and John Gollightly as duly (aided in their laudable task by sententious tobacco and eloquent ale) annihilated the cricket pretensions of the Shipley umpire; and—Essom having no more superfluous steam to blow off—the match became historical. But it left its mark. The Doctor was not slow to perceive that his devout patients, incited thereto by that dreadful exemplar of clear-starved propriety, Miss Priscilla Cardmums, looked him askance by way of signifying their horror at his recent wilful divergence into the path which leadeth unto destruction; and albeit his impatience of this petty coterie was keen, he was Yorkshire enough to know that any expression of annoyance would play the mischief with his practice; so he held his peace, and treated Miss Cardmums' flock of pious doves with an amount of arctic civility awful to behold. Then he had to face and have it out with Barjona. That cross-grained old gentleman was really "so partial to his young friend," that, as be seemed his great love, he rated him soundly "for his apparent proneness to join the silly multitude in their pursuit of an idle sport." As thus—

"It defies my penetration to comprehend why that man Daniel Essom—who is not without sense, mind'st thou, and is especially clear in his views of bishops and church-rates—can be joyful over games that would scarce besem a parcel of rackets boys. But thee! Hadst thou attended the ground in thy professional character, now—to look after broken heads and maimed limbs—and verily I am informed they are plentiful at your cricket-matches—I could have commended thy prudence; but to take a prominent part in the foolery, as I am told thou didst—thou need'st not wonder that I was uncharitable enough to think the Friend's Retreat a fitting abode for thee!"

How could he reply to this admonitory tirade, especially as he had firmly made up his mind to go the full length of his sporting tether? If Barjona's sense of good taste was outraged by a report of the Doctor's doings in flannels, what *would* he say if, one of those fine mornings, he beheld the said Doctor in the pigskin, attired in all the glories of "pink?"

So our hero held his peace; remained quiet under all the prickings of Heatherthorpean reproof: and if, like the great Gulliver, he refrained from chafing and wriggling beneath the piercing ordeal, the reason was a Lilliputian one—he could not stir.

But he had his revenge. It curiously chanced that the most antipathetic of his patients—even Barjona and the gentle Priscilla—required his professional aid, and that before many days were over. Now colicium and cold water are not the liveliest incentives to what A People's Tribune would term "a logical grasp," and under the influence of those cheerful deterrents of that noble malady the gout, the gruff Barjona was as tractable as a pet canary, and as little disposed to "argue" as the curate of a mining village. The Doctor was only human, and—it is said—he *did* keep his patient on water-gruel, and nothing else to speak of, a trifle—say a week—longer than was positively necessary for his recovery.

And the tender Priscilla. She, most long-suffering of district visitors, most patient of Sunday-school teachers, and most persevering of soup-kitchen treasurers, was seized with an ailment not directly attributable to tight lacing, low living, or the weather.

"It is not exactly a dangerous case," remarked the Doctor, airily, speaking of her to Barjona, "but interesting, you know: the sort of thing one don't meet with every day. Certainly not. Rely upon it, you will not be able to leave your room for a week at the least. (Thank you; yes—one glass; but is it not the least bit cruel to place temptation before you?) I was saying that Miss Cardmums' is a peculiar case; so you see I naturally take an unusual interest in it. I make the most of it, in fact. Good morning."

Whereat, so unceasing were his attentions, and so kindly, that the poor, dear simple lady "could have no other feeling for that thoughtfully gentle, clever Doctor, my dear"—as she put it to one of her female friends—"than the deepest gratitude and esteem." I grant he may not be as good as we should like him to be, you know; but there are worse than he, I am sure. I think if he could be brought more under my—I mean under our influence—he might— And a beaming smile, that for a moment smoothed the wrinkles of her worn face, completed the sentence. "But, dear me, young men are so resolute; so dreadfully difficult to control." And she sighed again.—"What can one say? If it were not for that horrid sporting!—Perhaps he may yet be led to see his imprudence."

Having unwittingly converted the leaders of the enemy into allies, the Doctor rapidly regained his popularity with the devout; and having ere this won the affections of that portion of Heatherthorp which did not plume itself on its evangelical humility and innocence of wordly grime, he speedily became the greatest man in the town, and, next to Sir Harry Sursingle, the most considerable personage in the entire country side.

The month which had opened so splendidly continued to grow in splendour; and the Doctor, assured by those indescribable signs-spiritual the blind god imprints on lovers' hearts that Kate Wilson's interest in him was more than friendly, was as happy as the days were long. (The days *are* long in June, remember.) Now that it was over he felt glad that Woodridge had won the bet. He was sure the issue of his mad undertaking (mad for him, who had no money to play with) had helped to shape Kate's gentle sympathy into—well, he scarcely knew what; but it was very pleasant to bask unchidden in its warmth. Hers was too candid a nature to conceal itself beneath the conventional cloak which young ladies frequently find it expedient to wear; and the Doctor "saw it all," or, to speak with due caution, fancied he saw it all, during those delightful summer days and nights, as he rode to and from The Place literally through lanes of roses.

Crisp exchanged notes with Kelpie on the subject, and the conclusion he arrived at in the course of the nightly "doings up" was decisive.

"Ah, Mr. Arthur's done now, old fellow! Fairly hooked—sssss—not but what we saw that lang syne—ssss!—*and so's she!* (Over, hoss.) It needs na wise man o' Stowlsy to tell us what's to come next—sssss! White favours—sss—snivellin' women—sss—champagne, and sike like. (Over, hoss.) Bells fit to deäfen ye, a sovereign to the clerk, a shower of owd shoes, an' off we go—sssss—s! Never mind, Kelp, my lad: if shap' mak' an' action has owt to do with it, she's as true a bred 'un as ever made a human bein' wish hissel' a hoss to carry her for ever and a day—sssss—and it's nowt ag'in' her that she doesn't throw back to't sike. Nowt! (Come over!)"

The Doctor's frequent visits to Wimpledale Place did not escape the peering eyes of the gossips—seised and possessed as they habitually are with a stupendous thirst for local knowledge. Essom heard at the Sursingle that the Doctor was given to evening rides abroad in the direction of Squire Wilson's residence,

and divining the cause thereof, he determined to be early on the scent for the purpose of confirming his conjectures. A timely call from Miss Burroughs brought all his powers of finesse into play.

"It is very hot, Mr. Es'm. I never knew such trying weather for complexions; and its a poor consolation to a lady with a skin the colour of m'hogany to be told that all the farmers have got their 'ay in."

"You are right, Miss Burroughs; but then country isn't so particular as town. But talking of complexions, and speaking professionally, I think you ought to take care of yours."

"Oh, Mr. Es'm!"

"Not at all—not at all, ma'am. I never flatter. If you will pardon the liberty, allow me the pleasure of presenting you with this pot of cold cream."

"Mr. Es'm, really—"

"Not at all, I assure you. This weather it is invaluable. It is compounded from a French recipe.—By the way, talking of complexions, you will soon all want to look your best at The Place if what I hear is true."

"If I said I didn't guess your meaning, Mr. Es'm, I should be telling a fib. Oh, Mr. Es'm, country air's bad for secrets! Not that there's anything reg'lar yet; but people have eyes, I should hope, and ears too, for that matter."

"Cert'nly," replied Essom, letting Miss Wilson's own maid have her head.

"It's not for me to so much as whisper; but you mark my words, if there isn't a pretty to-do before long my name's not Martha Burroughs!"

"Impossible!" somewhat irrelevantly ejaculated the attentive Mr. Essom.

"The father of somebody, Mr. Essom, is as blind as a new-born kitten, and somebody herself has a spirit of her own—"

"To be sure," assented the hairdresser.

"And when somebody's father sees what's going on (not that I have any right to complain of a certain handsome young gentleman *we* know, Mr. Essom), and the other young gentleman which he meant for somebody is put on one side, there'll be a pretty to-do."

"You cannot mean Mr. Woo—"

"You will please to recollect that I have mentioned no names, Mr. Es'm, and if you was to go down on your bended knees you would not get me to mention names. But I must be going, for we are expecting a visitor at The Place."

"A visitor?"

"Miss Vandervelde, a friend of Miss Wilson's; a German young lady, with as many airs as an actress."

Shortly after this interview Essom manoeuvred a meeting with Crisp. The interview was brief.

"I hear the governor's to be married, Crisp."

"You happen to hear a good deal that's not gospel."

"But he is to be married; isn't he?"

"Ask him."

"Why everybody says so."

"No!"

"Don't they, then?"

"Matthew Crisp hasn't said it yet that I know."

"Anyhow, everybody's full of it."

"Really! then everybody has had more than's good for 'em. Ta! ta."

And that was all he got out of Crisp. He did not doubt the integrity of Burroughs's mysterious narrative—indeed Crisp's taciturnity supplied a negative proof of her truthfulness. By-and-bye it was rumoured in Heatherthorp—and the report ran "in good set terms"—that the Doctor was about to marry the Belle of the Riding right out of hand, for had she not ordered her trousseau from London? were not the bridesmaids selected? had he not signified his intention of adding a new wing to the house? and—very much so forth? All which suggestive queries grew out of a lady's-maid's native loquacity, the said loquacity having previously been accelerated by the judicious application of a large pot of cold cream, "compounded from a French recipe!"

Not many days had elapsed since the cricket-match, but Squire Wilson, working like a mole in the dark, had not allowed the grass to grow beneath his feet. He felt instinctively that the wedding he had set his mind on would be repugnant to Kate, and therefore he wrought at his plans not only without her approval, but without her cognizance.

It had come to this. There was a serious dulness in the iron trade, and Woodridge, who had embarked his capital too late in the day to enable him "to get round," was beginning to feel embarrassed about his future. Old Wilson knew it, and the swifter to bring about his darling scheme, traded on his knowledge. He so contrived matters that Woodridge, acting upon some very broad hints that were conveyed in certain letters which the diplomatic proprietor of Wimpledale Place took care to write, made formal application for Kate's hand. Overjoyed with the success of his scheming, the Squire was unusually fruitful of dark hints at the breakfast-table on that particular morning. Kate, who recognized Woodridge's writing on the envelope, half guessed the contents of the letter, and earnestly longed for the arrival of her friend Miss Vandervelde, who was expected by the mid-day train.

"I am sorry I cannot accompany you to the station, my dear, and you must tell Sylvia so."

"Yes, papa, I will."

"It is an important magistrates' day; some of the Riding business to be settled, and I could not well be absent."

"I will explain everything, papa."

"Do, my love. I shall be back to dinner, of course; and you recollect, I dare say, that Sutton is coming too."

"O yes, papa," replied Kate, with a slight blush.

"He had a patient to see in this neighbourhood, and I believe he will drop in early. And now I must be off"—kissing her. "By-the-way, Kate, what a capital match your friend Sylvia would make for our Doctor, eh? I must give him a hint about it this evening."

Her friend Sylvia, indeed! What did he mean? asked Kate, almost fiercely of herself, as her father left the room.

He had not dared to tell her of Woodridge's offer. He knew the young gentleman would himself write to Kate by the next post, and, thanks to Wimpledale Place's adjoining a main-line station, the letter would reach her hands before his return from Heatherthorp.

Mr. Wilson was in great good-humour with himself as he mounted his substantial cob, and trotted off to Heatherthorp. Kate, poor girl, was fidgety and uneasy, and feverishly impatient for the arrival of her friend Sylvia. She did not hazard a conjecture as to the latest cause of her papa's complacency. That it was produced by Woodridge's letter was sufficient for her, and, although her mind was made up, she wanted a confederate to support her in the encounter with her papa, which, sooner or later, must come. She was ready for the drive to the station at least two hours before the train by which Miss Vandervelde had arranged to come by was due, and so was the carriage. Burroughs, in high dudgeon, telling the coachman that he'd better get the carriage ready, for goodness knew what was about to happen to Miss Wilson! What did it all mean, she should like to know? And she tossed her pert face (glistening from a recent copious application of cold cream) in a manner that boded rebellion.

Kate could not rest indoors, so taking a book in unconscious

make-believe, and carelessly tossing on a broad-brimmed hat, she sauntered forth in the direction of the Wimple-side. It was a glorious June day, bright and warm, with a high wind that swept the far blue "lift" of all but a few stray strands of snowy cloud. In a brief space she began to experience the gracious influence of the summer's maturity, and when the bold wind played with her tawny tresses, transmuted now into threads of burnished gold where the sun's rays rested, and nearly took possession of her hat, she burst into a light careless laugh, the expression of pre-occupation vanished, and she glanced around with a face that said, to the world's cares and sorrows, as plainly as it could speak, "Come, if you dare, I am ready!"

It was not difficult to discern whither her thoughts had travelled during the last few minutes. Her first memorable meeting with Arthur (for so she called him, speaking softly to herself), her growing liking for him, her admiration of his simply noble nature, and finally, disguise it as she might, her love for him, were all passed in rapid review. *But did he love her?* She thought he did, only he had not yet spoken. Another rush of the wind, fresh from the moors, set her thoughts dancing off on another track. She gazed across the river, her eyes alight with earnest feeling, and, dwelling lovingly on the undulating swells of the heath-clad moors, sang a verse of a joyous ballad, that smelt of the bracken and heather, and whinflowers of her native dales.

The echoes of her sweet voice had scarcely died away when she heard a footstep. She turned, the Doctor stood before her.

"Mr. Sutton!" she exclaimed, with an air of confusion, that made her look prettier than before, "and to surprise me thus!"

"Nay, Miss Wilson, I have no more than availed myself of the privilege of an old friend. You must really pardon me, especially as I have probably deprived myself of the pleasure of hearing the remainder of a ballad so racy of the soil, and so pretty into the bargain, as that which you were singing."

"I think you once told me, that you were no adept at flattery; that—it was more in Mr. Woodridge's way."

"Oh, yes, yes; I did not mean to flatter—that is not in your sense of what flattery is. But I had better say no more, for I am only making matters worse. I came to ask Mr. Wilson to excuse my dining with him to-day. Robson is unwell, and I cannot be off duty."

"Not coming, Mr. Sutton!" she said, in a tone of disappointment.

"No, and are you very sorry?" he asked, in a tone she had never heard him use before, he peering keenly into her face the while. "Are you indeed sorry?"—he added, taking her hand—"that I must be absent? Oh, Kate!" continued he, his voice growing deeper in its earnestness, and his face alit with new life, "I must say what I have wanted to say week after week, and day after day, but could not—fearful of offending you. Kate, darling, I have lately got to think that I am not altogether indifferent to you, and now let me know the worst; let me hear from her lips, if the Kate who has been so precious to me ever since the night of that terrible ride for life, when I received her fainting in my arms, is willing to forego a brilliant future for the quiet of a country doctor's humdrum existence?"

Her head drooped. She was dumb.

"Kate, I love you—may I hope, darling?"

Had the breeze, drowsed by the fierce sun, gone to sleep in the hollow? Perhaps; else how could the Doctor, who was a tall fellow, have heard so faint a "yes," as that which timidly passed her sweet lips?

If Kate had sauntered languidly from the garden gate to the riverside, her return to the house was infinitely slower,—and with reason. She was not alone; her companion had much to say, and she, meek and subdued, and her heart running over with happiness, was content to listen, and steal furtive glances, between the pauses in his earnest talk, at his eloquent face. She was glad to escape to her own room, to be alone with her own delicious thoughts, and when the Doctor went on his way rejoicing, she shut herself up, and, in fancy, tried to combat the indignation of her papa. He must soon know all, and then what would he say? Never mind, Arthur loved her.

The business of the Riding was completed without a single hitch, much to the surprise of some of Squire Wilson's friends, who had expected to see him in a character he loved to personate—that of an obstructive. After business there was the usual light reflection, and the lighter discussion of the latest scandal.

"Ah! by the way, Wilson," observed the Chairman of the Bench, Sir Harry Sursingle, "am I premature in congratulating you on eh, a—an auspicious event?—eh?"

"I am quite in the dark as to your meaning, Sir Harry," replied the astonished Squire.

"Come come; that won't do, you know. Your daughter—"

"What of her?" rejoined the old gentleman, hotly.

"Is to be married to our young Doctor, is she not? the neighbourhood rings with the news."

The blank look with which Mr. Wilson received Sir Harry's intimation was highly flattering to that estimable Baronet's powers of railleury, especially as the other magistrates so far descended to the level occupied by ordinary beings, as to indulge in a roar of laughter at the expense of the proprietor of Wimpledale Place. Old Wilson maintained a grim silence; the cut was too deep to be healed in a hurry; and as soon as he could decently get away he left for home.

Meanwhile Miss Sylvia Vandervelde had arrived; and at the moment of old Wilson's departure for Heatherthorp was reclining on an ottoman, shielding her Dresden-china sort of face,—pure features, fair hair, and blue eyes, from the rays of the setting sun with a Watteau fan. There was an open letter in her lap.

"It is two years since," she said, speaking with dainty deliberation, as though she liked to listen to the inflections of her own voice, "and I was more than two years younger then, believe me. He flirted with me, Kate; I loved him (you see I can be cool over it now), and then he—what would you call it—"

"Threw you over, I suppose," observed Kate, simply.

"Yes, threw me over; and I bore it Kate, calmly; but I did not forget. And now he proposes to you!—Did he know of my projected visit?"

"No."

"Then he must not know. He wants a reply—poor young gentleman! He shall have one which, if you please, I will dictate; and when he comes I will receive him."

"Oh, Syl! I shall never be able to repay you for all this!" exclaimed Kate. "And papa?"

"Leave him also to me."

Somehow, the Squire's determination to prove his paternal authority evaporated into thin air, or rather exhibited itself in a very mild form, when he discovered that the Doctor was not going to show. The young Jesuit had heard something, he supposed, and was displaying the white feather. He was exceedingly grumpy at table; and Miss Vandervelde, to the mischievous delight of Kate, did not add to his equanimity by her remarks. In a few neat sentences she succeeded in placing Mr. Reginald Woodridge before the mind's eye of the Squire in a light very different from that in which he had seen him before. But the Doctor! To steal his daughter's affections under her father's very nose! It was a consolation to him, as far as it went, to learn from Burroughs that Miss Kate had received a letter. All may be well yet, thought the Squire, for Woodridge will be here to-morrow. But that Doctor!

(To be continued.)



SPRING-TIME.



SCENES AND CHARACTERS FROM THE NEW PLAY "L'HETMAN," AT PARIS.

OPERATIC CELEBRITIES.

FRANCESCO GEMINIANI was born at Lucca, in 1680, and received his first instructions in music from Alessandra Scarlatti. He was afterwards the pupil of Carlo Ambrosio Lunati, surnamed Il Gobbo, a famous violinist. He finished his studies under Corelli, and in the year 1714 came to England, where he soon became popular and fashionable, and was enthusiastically patronised by Baron Kilmansegge, who had been chamberlain to George I. when he was Elector of Hanover. In 1715, he published some famous compositions, whereby his fame was hugely increased, as well as the number of his fashionable pupils, amongst whom was the Earl of Essex, who rescued him from the Marshalsea Prison, and, to screen him from being again arrested for debt, enrolled him in the list of his servants. The earl afterwards obtained him the post of "Master and Composer of State Music" in Ireland, vacated by the death of an eminent German musician, John Sigismund Cousser, in 1727; but this he declined, on the ground that he, being a Roman Catholic, could not hold that office unless he became a Protestant. In 1748, he advertised "A Concerto Spirituale," to be performed in Drury Lane Theatre, and to consist of music by great Italian masters, previously unknown in England; and he afterwards went to Paris, where he published many original compositions, and composed two operas, with which, in 1755, he returned to England, and lodged in Grange Inn, Carey-street. A contemporary, who visited him there, says, "I found him in a room at the top of the house, half-filled with pictures, and in his waistcoat. Upon my telling him I wanted the score and parts of both operas of his concertos, he asked me if I loved pictures? Upon my answering in the affirmative, he said that he loved painting better than music; and with great labour drew from among the many that stood upon the floor and round the room, two, one representing the story of Tobit cured of his blindness, by Michael Angelo Caravaggio; the other a Venus, by Coreggio. 'These pictures,' said Geminiani, 'I bought at Paris, the latter was in the collection of the Duke of Orleans; they are inestimable, and I mean to leave them to my relations. Many men are able to bequeath great sums of money. I shall leave what is more valuable than money, pictures scarcely to be matched in the world.'" The visitor in vain strove to speak about music, all the enthusiastic composer would talk about was painting and his beloved pictures; and, consequently, the operas Geminiani had advertised for sale remained unsold. His visitor thought him mad.

The rebellion of 1745 caused the Opera-house in London to be closed. John Bull could no longer tolerate the presence of foreigners, and he was just then rampant against the Roman Catholics. But in April of that year, Geminiani took the Little Theatre in the Haymarket, and produced an opera a pasticcio, called *L'Incostanza Delusa*, under the patronage of a passionate lover of music, Prince Lobkowitz, who was then in London. Pasquali led; "and I remember," says Dr. Burney, "at a rehearsal, Geminiani taking the violin out of his hands to give him the style and expression of the symphony to a song, which had been mistaken when first led off. And this was the first time I ever saw or heard Geminiani." Signora Galli, a bold masculine-looking woman performed the first male part, and the first female part was played by Signora Frasi. The mysterious Count St. Germain composed several of the songs, one of which—"Per pietà bell' idolo mio"—sung by Frasi, never failed to produce rapturous applause, and was always encored. As a speculation, however, the result was a failure. Geminiani has been described as a little man with a sallow complexion, pleasant expression, and dark eyebrows, who was generally dressed in blue velvet richly embroidered with gold.

He went, after his failure in the Haymarket—mainly due to his want of business qualities—into Ireland on a visit to his pupils, Dubourg and Squire Coote, and there a story was told of him which may interest our readers.

A little band of poor players arrived in a terribly impoverished condition at a place he was residing near, at Coot-hill, in the north of Ireland. The manager was Mr. Joseph Younger, and he went with his pitiable story of want and woe to Squire Coote, who granted the use of one of his outbuildings for a theatre, and promised to attend the performance. He did so, and with him went Geminiani, the great and famous musical composer, and late London opera director. The actors on his arrival were in consternation, they had been unable to obtain a musician, and to act without music to such an audience was a seeming impossibility. At last appeared a little girl leading a blind man, who played a rude kind of violin called a "crowdy." Hailing him with delight, a stool was placed for him behind the scenes, and straight began his "music." The harsh discordant sounds he eliminated from his vile instrument tortured the ear of the great musician in front so terribly that in his agony he stopped his ears, and a mischievous wag, the squire's son, stimulated the blind minstrel to infuse even greater enthusiasm and vigour into his performance by telling him that the greatest violinist in the world was in the pit with Squire Coote enraptured with his playing. Then springing to his feet, Geminiani said he must go away, and cried for the carriage. The squire's son, however, laughingly barred his progress, and the audience seeing the joke, burst into laughter and began to applaud, while the fiddler hearing the applause, and taking it to himself, sawed away at his fiddle with renewed energy, rasping out the harshest and most discordant of ugly sounds. At last the squire's laughter became so alarmingly violent, and Geminiani's agony so extreme that the former's lady came to the rescue, and commanded the fiddler to cease playing on pain of her serious displeasure. And so the curtain rose, and when Joseph Younger, as Lord Townley, in *The Provoked Husband*, advanced towards his lady, the high heels of his shoes sunk so deeply into the newly laid malthouse floor that, in endeavouring to extricate them, they came off, and the enraged actor had to dig them out with his fingers, amidst uproarious merriment, in which Geminiani heartily joined.

The death of Geminiani followed soon after. For years he had been passionately absorbed in the production of an elaborate treatise on music. It was to be the great work of his life, the crowning glory of all his efforts. A servant girl in his employ, instigated, it is said, by some treacherous enemy, stole and destroyed the MS. The musician was terribly affected by the loss, despaired of ever repairing it, grew melancholy, lost flesh, and soon after died. His works consist mainly of the twelve solos for the violin his first English works, six concertos in seven parts, opera terza, twelve violin solos, opera quarta; six solos for a violoncello, opera quinta. The same as solos for a violin, six concertos for his opera quarta, six concertos in eight parts, opera septima; "Rules for Playing in Taste," "A Treatise on Good Taste in Music," "The Art of Playing the Violin," twelve sonatas from his first solos, opera undecima; Repieno parts to the same. "Lessons for the Harpsichord," "Guida Armonica; Supplement to the same." "The Art of Accompaniment," in two volumes. His two first operas on concertos in score, and *The Enchanted Forest*.

(To be continued.)

AN AMATEUR PERFORMANCE AT THE OPERA COMIQUE.

THE announcement of an amateur performance at the Opera Comique, in aid of a church building fund, at which Mrs. Monckton and the Hon. Lady Sebright would appear, was hailed with no little pleasure by a large section of fashionable playgoers, and the demand for seats grew rapidly to an extent which soon sent their cost up to famine pitch, and excluded several members of "the fourth estate," for whom on Saturday last neither love nor money could secure admittance.

The programme of the occasion included the comedieta entitled *A Comical Countess*, besides a new dramatic sketch by the author of *New Men and Old Acres*, Mr. Dubourg, entitled *Art and Love*; and an adaptation of the little piece by MM. Siraudin and Thiboust, entitled *Les Femmes qui Pleurent*. In the first of those pieces Lady Sebright sustained the part of the Countess de l'Espalier, a "frolicsome parvenu lady of the powder-wig and diamond-buckle period of French annals, displaying much vivacity, and a pleasant archness. The little piece of Mr. Dubourg, which depicts the position of Lucy, an actress, who has left the stage to marry a rich young gentleman of good family, and casts longing, lingering, and regretful looks back to the pleasurable excitement of her past life. Her heart is in her old work; her determination is to follow her new duties. Her husband is not wearied with reproaches, nor does she proclaim war against his puritanical relations; but she submits with a sigh, and her sorrow is locked in her own bosom. Far away in the dim distance of her dreamy imagination are the shady forests where Orlando wooed Rosalind; and the moonlit balcony, on which as Juliet she listened to the passionate vows of love-sick Romeo. She turns with a sigh from these, and from Imogen, Hero, and all the dear dramatic women of her old companionship, and with a pretty smile sits at her desk to please her husband, and elaborate a *ménu* with the aid of Francatelli. But temptation falls in Lucy's way. Old Jackson, the favourite dramatic teacher of her maidenhood, her friend and almost father, comes, with his honest enthusiasm for the art she loves, to chide her for deserting it, is mollified by Lucy's grateful affection, and overjoyed by her sudden recollection of a scene from *As You Like It*. As they are together talking over old times, and glowing with old memories, the husband enters, and, with a burst of indignation, turns old Jackson from Lucy's doors. The woman, fairly roused, protests against the insult, and is enabled to carry her point in the most emphatic manner, for Harry, the husband, is ruined. Lucy has now the right to support him by returning to the stage, Jackson is overjoyed, and both "art" and "love" are permitted to embrace. It requires no practised eye to see that such a delicate sketch requires the most graceful and sensitive touch for an artistic representative of the heroine and talents not often found in combination; but Mrs. Monckton has not only great natural gifts, but is in all respects a cultivated actress. Her voice would in itself go a long way towards success, being pleasant in its lighter tones, rich and full in tones more appropriate to pathetic utterance. She is moreover rarely at a loss for those little details which help so powerfully in filling up the scene and preventing all appearance of flagging in action. Old Jackson was played with good judgment and considerable force by Mr. Palgrave Simpson. The lady's high-born husband loses interest in the mind of the spectator, who fails to recognise the nobility or high principle of a man who is represented as acquiescing in a proposal for henceforth subsisting upon his wife's earnings, in the practice of a profession for which he had constantly spoken with such ungenerous contempt. The Honorable Lady Sebright and Mrs. Monckton appeared together in the comedieta entitled *Tears*, Mrs. Monckton, as the worldly, mirth-loving widow, and Lady Sebright to display a charm and force in her new part worthy of the best names handed down in dramatic chronicles. The audience was enchanted. The amateurs may be thoroughly satisfied with the applause which they not only won, but deserved. The ladies were dressed to perfection. In all the pieces they were supported by amateur gentlemen, who, if not able at all times either to forget that they had hands, or to dispose of those members gracefully and naturally, were otherwise neither wanting in painstaking endeavour, nor without success in their efforts to amuse. Another amateur performance will take place on Saturday, the 17th of March, and again in aid of a charitable cause.

SCENE FROM THE NEW PARISIAN PLAY "L'HETMAN."

L'Hetman, the new five-act drama by M. Déroulède, which is the latest success at the Odéon, the second state theatre at Paris, is said to be full of political meaning. Its subject is the revolt of the Don Cossacks against the Polish monarchy. The secret of the widespread excitement which it has aroused "lies," says a Paris correspondent, "in the fact that the French public, whether wisely or otherwise, have determined to recognise Alsace-Lorraine in the enslaved provinces, which make so bold and successful an attempt to shake off a foreign yoke. Strasbourg and Metz, Bazaine and the President of the Republic, together with a Franco-Russian alliance, are all obstinately supposed by public opinion to be typified and shadowed forth in the most prominent characters of *L'Hetman*." When one patriot complains that "We have lost five years," and another responds, "What then, if we have employed them that, from the pupils of our foes, we have become their masters?" the application is obvious. The relations of friendship and favour which exist between the author of the play and the President of the French Republic will doubtless be appealed to as giving significance to these declarations. One of the features connect with this attractive drama was the reappearance of M. Gil-Naza, the gifted but eccentric actor, who figures to the right in our page of sketches, and who five-and-twenty years ago made his début on the boards of the Casino des Galeries St. Hubert (now a theatre), of Brussels. Shortly afterwards he presented himself to the director of the Odéon with a letter of introduction from M. Hetzel, demanding a rôle, but without engagement or salary. The manager declined his services. Just before the production of *La Jeunesse de Louis XIV.*, Lafontaine, who was cast for Mazarin, fell ill. The manager thought of Gil-Naza, and sent for him to see if he would double the rôle. Gil-Naza promptly replied, stating that, although he had but just recovered from typhus fever, he would be ready to play Mazarin in three days. The reply was fatal, and Lafontaine recovered in time to create the part. When the drama was revived, Gil-Naza played *Mazarin*, and it ran seventy-five nights, on the last of which Gil-Naza quitted the theatre without saying a word. He next created one of the leading parts in *Un Drame sous Philippe II.*, and, after the piece had run for some considerable time, the director with some difficulty induced the artist to accept a present of 7,000fr. Some time afterwards Gil-Naza created the rôle of the Duc de Marillac, in *La Comtesse de Lérins*, at the Théâtre Historique. He then fell ill, and being really poor, the director of the Odéon's heart was touched, and he called upon him to say that 1,000fr. was ready for him whenever he chose to ask for it. Gil-Naza thanked him for his kindness, but made no use of the offer.

The Surrey Bicycle Club has arranged to hold a race meeting on Saturday, 28th April next, at Kennington Oval.

BASIL YOUNG.

Facies tua computat amos, is not a compliment we could apply to a lady, but it is applicable to an artist who for more than twenty years has contributed to the delight of thousands without having gained a metropolitan fame. In most provincial towns, Mr. Basil Young has been, and is still, a welcome visitor. Having chiefly associated his career as an entertainer with Literary and Mechanic's Institutes, his numerous engagements have shut him out from a sufficiently lengthened appearance in London, to be either advantageous or remunerative. Consequently the metropolis has been denied the services of one of the cleverest and most humorous entertainers of the day. Originally in a London Banking house, he speedily forsook pass-books and check-ledgers for the more congenial task of opening a current account of the manners and customs of the age. His first appearance was in an entertainment entitled *A Peep at Life, or Sketches of Everyone, Everything, Everywhere*, given at the Marylebone Literary Institute, in July, 1855, and in the October following we find him at the Pavilion, Brighton, where he had a successful run. In November he appeared at the Concert Hall, Liverpool, and achieved an immense success, his performances being characterised by genuine art and refined humour. Being the author of his entertainments, he has possessed faculties denied to many, and which have permitted him to give a far greater variety of characters than he would otherwise have done. Always a profitable man with Literary Institutes his entertainments have often helped to replenish their exhausted funds. On several occasions he has appeared at the Crystal Palace, where his style of performance is peculiarly suitable and appreciated. He has never called himself "Inimitable," or "Great," but has left his audience to find that he is both. His dialogue is invariably fresh and sparkling, a vein of philosophy running through it which tends to exalt it above the calibre of ordinary comic effusions; and being combined with natural gifts of a high order and an exceedingly gentlemanlike bearing, he may be justly termed the *facile princeps* of an entertainer.

Mr. Basil Young appeared in the Theatre attached to "The Granville," at St. Lawrence-on-sea, on Saturday evening the 10th inst., in his latest entertainment entitled *The Mimicquarium*, and was received with the greatest applause by a very numerous and delighted audience. Our portrait is engraved from a photograph by Mr. W. H. Mason, of Croydon.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. G. (Burton).—Your proposed solution of No. 130, in two moves, is a failure. Try again.
J. B. (Boxford).—The problem is marked for publication, and shall not be overlooked.
CENTURION.—In problem No. 129, White's play varies according to the defence. If Black plays K to Q 3, White mates by Q to K R 2; and if he captures the Kt, or moves the pawn, White Queens the K Kt, P mating.

Solutions of Problem No. 130 received, from A. F. Eaton, Cantharikhopho, J. Coombs, Pepper's Ghost, J. Wontone, and J. Dobson.
Solutions of Problem No. 131 received, from A. F. Eaton, E. P. V., J. Byng, Cantharikhopho, J. Dobson, and J. Wontone.
Solutions of Problem No. 132 received from J. Byng and J. Wontone.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS.

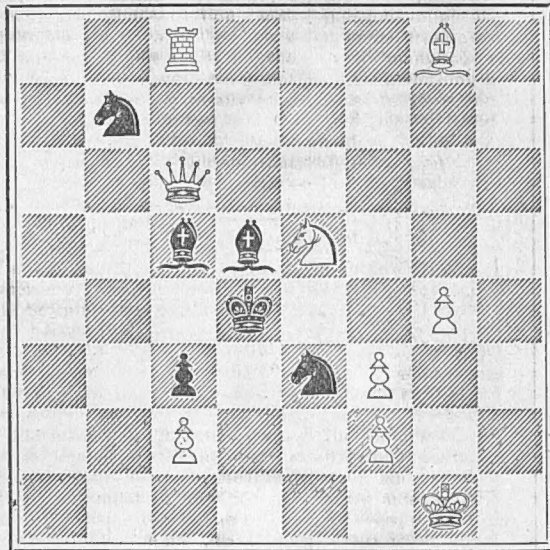
NO. 130.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to B 6	P takes Kt
2. K to Q 2nd and	3. Q mates.

NO. 131.	
1. Kt to B 5	K to B 5
2. Q to Q R 4	K to Q 3
3. Q mates.	

PROBLEM NO. 133.

By D. CLARK, of Siberia.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

CHESS IN LONDON.

A GAME played recently at Simpson's Divan:—

[THE TWO KNIGHTS' OPENING.]

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
(Mr. Eccles).	(Mr. Heber).	(Mr. Eccles).	(Mr. Heber).
1. P to K 4	P to K 4	18. P takes B	Kt takes K R P
2. Kt to Q B 3	Kt to Q B 3	19. R takes B	Kt takes R sq
3. Kt to K B 3	B to Q B 4 (a)	20. R takes Kt	Kt to K B 6 (ch)
4. Kt takes K P	B tks K B P (ch)	21. K to Q 3 (d)	Kt takes R:
5. K takes B	Kt takes Kt	22. B takes Kt	R to K B 6 (ch)
6. P to Q 4	Q to K B 3 (ch)	23. K to Q 2 (e)	P to R 5 (f)
7. K to K sq (b)	Kt to Kt 3	24. R to K 6 (g)	P to R 6
8. B to K 3	K Kt to Q 2	25. Kt to Q sq	Q R to K Kt sq
9. Q to K B 3	Q takes Q	26. K to K 2	Q R to K B 6
10. P takes Q	Castles	27. Kt to K B 2	R to K Kt 6
11. P to K R 4	P to K R 4	28. R to R 6 (ch)	K to Kt 2
12. B to Q 3	P to Q B 3	29. R takes P	R takes B
13. K to Q 2	P to Q 3	30. R to K B 3	R takes R
14. Q R to K Kt sq	P to K B 4	31. K takes B	R to Q B 8
15. R to K Kt 5	P takes P	32. P to Q B 3	P to Q Kt 4
16. B takes P	B to K B 4	33. Kt to Q 3 (h)	
17. KR to KKt sq (c) B takes B			

(a) P to K Kt 3 has been accepted for some time as the best move at this point, to which White is made to reply with P to Q 4, and in a few moves the game is declared to be quite even, but supposing white plays instead of P to Q 4 (4) B to Q B 4, and afterwards P to Q 3, he shuts up Black's B, when played to K Kt 2, and clearly obtains the better position.

(b) K to Kt Square is most honoured by the bookmakers and readers, but the move made is at least unobjectionable.

(c) He has now a fine attack, that ought to have been victorious.

(d) When White has had a little more experience he will see the necessity of making his King take a prominent part in end games. K to K 2 was the proper reply.

(e) Still avoiding the fray.

(f) The onrush of this Pawn is well-timed.

(g) Again he loses time.

(h) The game might very probably have been won by Black had he played R to Q B 7, but being interrupted in his cogitations by some talkative friends, he left his Rook to be clutched by the Kt, and then proposed a draw, which, being kindly but firmly rejected, he at once resigned.

COUGHS, ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS.—Medical Testimony states that no other medicine is so effectual in the cure of these dangerous maladies as KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES. One lozenge alone gives relief, one or two at bedtime ensures rest. Sold by all Chemists, in boxes, at 1s. 14d. and 2s. 9d. They contain no opium or preparation thereof.—[Advrt.]